

GINI WIJNALDUM • LFC GOALIES • NAT PHILLIPS • IAN ST JOHN • TOP-FOUR RACE • NEIL MELLOR

# LIVERPOOL FC



Official Liverpool FC Monthly Magazine

LFC Mag May 21 £4.50



9 771478 304167

[liverpoolfc.com](http://liverpoolfc.com)

Standard  
Chartered



DIOGO JOTA'S BIG GOAL FOR 2021





## The world is a better place when we exchange what we have.

If not for the trade of eggs and rice, two villages would never have discovered egg fried rice. At Standard Chartered, we believe that wonderful things can happen when trade brings the world together. That's why we've been using our position as a leading trade bank across Asia, Africa and the Middle East to drive global trade for over 160 years. And we continue to do so, even in uncertain times.

See how we're using our distinctive international network to keep trade flowing at [sc.com/hereforgood](https://sc.com/hereforgood)

Here for good



**Reach Sport**

Editor David Cottrell

Assistant Editor William Hughes

Writer Chris McLoughlin

Production Editor

Michael McGuinness

Design Colin Sumpter

Contributors Dave Ball, Ged Rea

Photography Getty Images, Press Association, Mirrorpix,

Liverpool Echo, John Powell, Andrew Powell, Nicholas

Taylor © Liverpool Football Club &amp; Athletic Grounds Ltd.

Published by Reach Sport Managing Director Steve

Hanrahan Commercial Director Will Beedles Executive Art

Editor Rick Cooke Executive Editor Paul Dove

Marketing &amp; Communications Manager Claire Brown

Printed by William Gibbons

Email [liverpoolfcmag@reachsport.com](mailto:liverpoolfcmag@reachsport.com).To subscribe visit [www.reachsportshop.com](http://www.reachsportshop.com)

© Liverpool Football Club & Athletic Grounds Ltd. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written permission of the copyright owners. Every effort has been made by the publishers to ensure the accuracy of this publication; the publishers cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions. In the interest of independence and impartiality, many features in this publication have been written by third-party experts. Any opinions expressed therein are the views of the writers themselves and not necessarily those of Liverpool FC and Reach Sport.

**NAT PHILLIPS**

The young defender reflects upon the team's progress and his own performances

10

**MOST PICKED BY MANAGER**

A fascinating look at who played the most for which LFC bosses through history

34

**DIOGO JOTA**

The Portuguese ace returned to action and carried on just where he'd left off upfront

42

**GINI WIJNALDUM**

The Reds midfielder assesses an extraordinary season so far for LFC

52

**GEORGE SEPHTON**

Extracts from the brilliant new book by the 'Voice of Anfield' – so many stories to tell

60

**MARK MORRIS**

The Under-23s goalkeeping coach talks us through the young Academy prospects

66

**IAN ST JOHN**

A tribute to the late, great Saint in pictures: what an LFC career, what a footballer...

72

**RHIANNON ROBERTS**

Liverpool FC Women's Welsh international believes the girls can turn the corner

84

**NEIL MELLOR**

High praise for the Mo Salah, who scores goals and does so much more for Liverpool

96

**HILLSBOROUGH**

Remembering the 96 in the month of the 32nd anniversary of the tragedy

98







## DEADLY DIOGO MAKES IT THREE

You can read more about Diogo Jota's return to first-team duty and goalscoring excellence elsewhere in this issue. This is his typical poacher's finish in the 3-0 victory away to Arsenal in the Premier League, smashing the ball into the back of the Gunners net after a cute assist from fellow Liverpool front-runner Sadio Mane.







## CLEANING UP IN KIRKBY TOO

Fabinho has been affectionately dubbed 'Byson' by his manager and team-mates. BBC Sport and ex-Reds defender Stephen Warnock says: "It's because he is so effective at 'hoovering up' any danger before it gets to his defence. Fabinho sits at the point of a triangle in front of the two centre-halves, quickly sensing any danger and stopping it developing – whether it's through his aggression and his tackling, or by him reading the game and stretching out a leg to cut out a pass. He changes the tempo Liverpool play at too – he is good enough on the ball to quickly pass through midfield and directly feed the forward players."









**Foundation**

THE CLUB'S OFFICIAL CHARITY

# WIN

a  
**BIG RED  
NIGHT IN**

with  
**MILLY**



**BE ONE OF 10 LUCKY WINNERS TO A GROUP VIDEO CHAT  
WITH LIVERPOOL FC MIDFIELDER JAMES MILNER**

With his amusing tweets and engaging social posts, our number 7 has become a huge hit with LFC fans everywhere. Now you could be one of **10 lucky Reds** who'll experience a night to remember with one of football's true characters and charity fundraisers.

**ENTER NOW**  
[bigrednightin.com](http://bigrednightin.com)





## YOUTH CLUB

They're two of the youngest members of Liverpool FC's senior squad and both Curtis Jones and Ozan Kabak have big futures ahead of them. Local lad Curtis has added more goals and guile to his game this season while on-loan Turkish centre-back Ozan has settled into his defensive duties admirably since arriving in the January transfer-window.







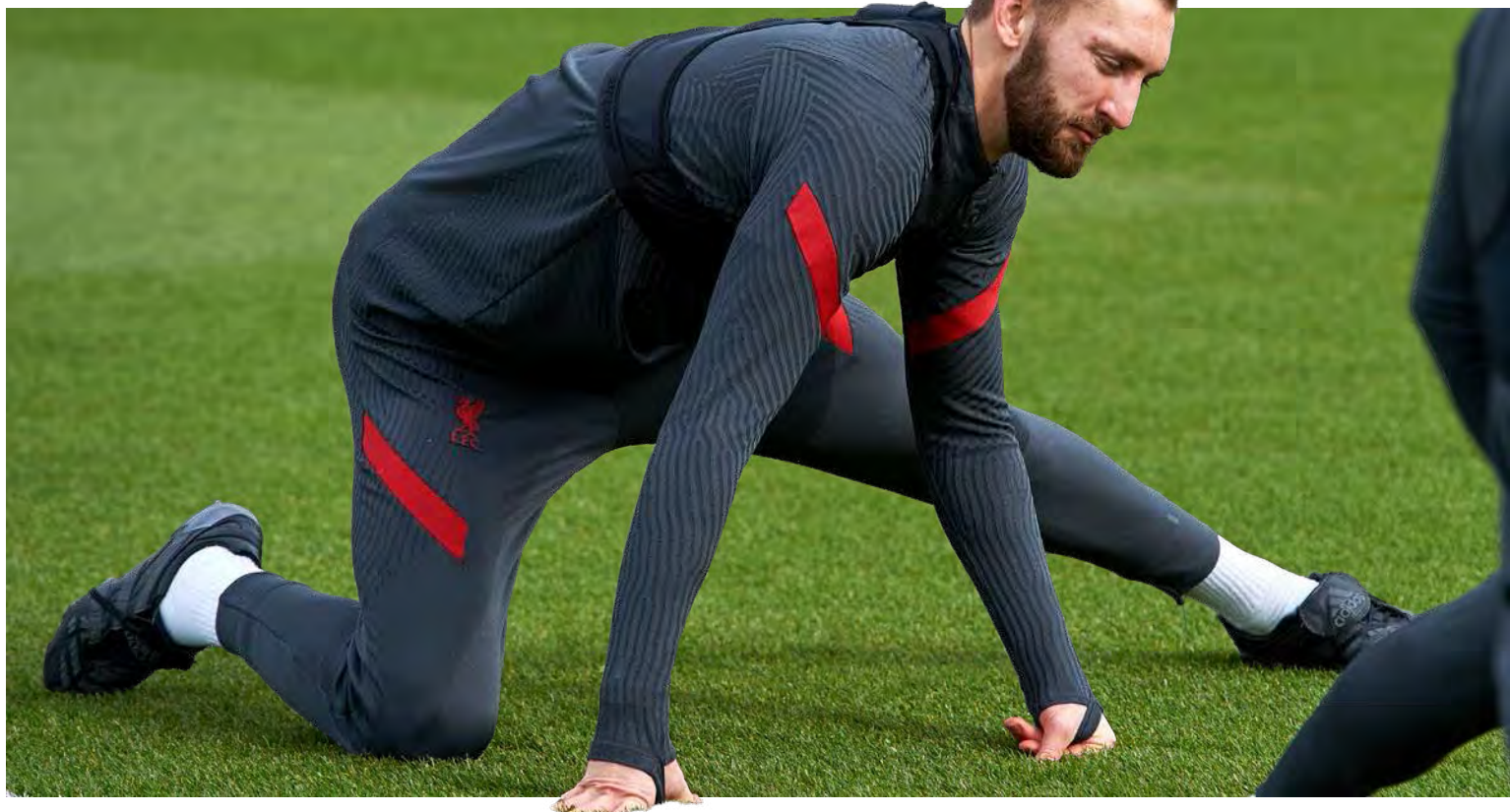
# NAT GOING



A twist of fate this season changed the trajectory of Nat Phillips' career – what does the centre-back make of a 2020/21 campaign he could never have predicted?







**WHAT WERE YOUR EXPECTATIONS WHEN THE SEASON KICKED OFF?**

At the end of pre-season it looked like I was on my way out to the club, to be honest. It looked likely that I'd be going elsewhere to get some games to start my career off in this country and carry on from my loan at Stuttgart last year, trying to build on that with playing games and getting that experience.

**HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT STAYING AND WHY DID THAT MOVE NOT COME ABOUT?**

Initially when it first happened everybody here was fit and it didn't look like there would be any scenario where I would be playing for Liverpool's first team this year. I was a bit disappointed because I was looking forward to going out and playing football and just kick-starting my career.

But obviously things changed and I don't think anybody could've seen what was coming. It was a typical example of how bizarre football can be sometimes. I think it was within a month of almost leaving that I was making my Premier League debut.



**CLEARLY IF YOU HAD GONE, YOU WOULDN'T BE GETTING THIS CHANCE IN YOUR LIVERPOOL CAREER NOW...**

I suppose so. It was obviously awful circumstances for the team and the club and for the boys who were injured themselves, but I'm just grateful that in the time between I'd kept myself ready and trained hard so that I was ready to take the opportunity when it came.

That was all that was in my mind at the time. I wasn't thinking too far ahead, just making sure if I was called upon that I'd be able to perform to the best of my ability.

**YOU WERE NAMED MAN OF THE MATCH AFTER THAT PREMIER LEAGUE DEBUT AGAINST WEST HAM – DID YOU FEEL THE PRESSURE TO PERFORM?**

I think any player would say that before their Premier League debut they were going to be nervous, but to be honest I was also feeling a lot of excitement because it was something I'd looked towards and dreamt about throughout my whole childhood career and youth career, so there was that excitement too.

Then during the game I was just fully-focused on doing my job at hand and helping the team out and it was a nice little surprise at the end of the game to be awarded that by Jamie Carragher. But I was most happy that we got the win.

**HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN THE CLUB BROUGHT IN A COUPLE OF CENTRE-HALVES IN THE WINTER TRANSFER-WINDOW – DOES THAT ADDED COMPETITION HELP IMPROVE YOU AS A PLAYER EVEN MORE?**

Personally I can't have an impact on that side of things, so it doesn't make sense for me to focus on it or worry about it. For the sake of the club and the team, bringing in the centre-halves was a good thing because we were short of centre-halves, had people playing out of position, and injuries were happening fairly often, so it was a massive help for the squad.

There's no point worrying about things that I can't control. I just need to focus on doing what's best for the team. There's no harm in competition within the squad and when you're bringing in players who are in your position then sometimes you





## BRINGING IN THE NEW CENTRE-HALVES WAS A GOOD THING BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION – THERE IS NO HARM IN COMPETITION WITHIN THE SQUAD

might have to 'up' your own game to try and make sure you hold your position in the team. So there are benefits to it as well.

I can only control how I train and how I play when I get those opportunities. So that was the mindset that I took.

### **HAS ANYBODY BEEN OF PARTICULAR HELP TO YOU THIS SEASON, HAS VIRGIL VAN DIJK OFFERED ANY ADVICE?**

Yes, Virg has offered help when he's been in and around the dressing-room on game-days and he will give advice for certain situations that are happening in the game and how we might be able to alter things to improve those situations in our favour. But to be honest I would say everybody in general has been a massive help, from the manager and the coaching staff to the players as well.

The players are always talking to me throughout games and especially during my first few games, they were helping me through those. But I think as I've played more games and gained a bit more trust, the players haven't had to look after me as much because they feel like I'm capable of producing. But from the start everyone wanted to help me out and they did that.

### **HAVE YOU FOUND YOURSELF GETTING MORE VOCAL ON THE PITCH AS YOU'VE PLAYED MORE GAMES?**

I think in my first game I was quite vocal, but that was probably down to adrenaline! I would certainly say the more games I've played, I've gathered more confidence and felt more comfortable.

Off the back of that I've maybe been more vocal, but I think it's important anyway as a centre-back to be vocal. So I've always tried to do that and communicate clearly whether it's been my first game or the last game I've played.

### **WHAT'S IT BEEN LIKE HAVING SO MANY DIFFERENT PARTNERS AT CENTRE-BACK?**

Obviously it's a bit different but then I suppose that it's still early in my career and I've never really experienced the sort of situation where I've been playing alongside one player for a continuous amount of time.

There's no one I can think of who I've had a regular centre-back partnership with, and all the players that I've played alongside have done well, whether it's Hendo or Fab when







they've filled in from centre-mid, or my first game which was with Joe [Gomez].

I've played with Joe a few times in the Under-23s when he'd been coming back from injury, so we had a bit of an understanding off the back of that. But ultimately you train with these players every day of every week so you know how each of them plays and what their qualities are.

So even though it is different in the sense that you don't often have so many centre-back pairings, we all have an understanding of each other and an awareness of how each other plays.

**YOU PARTNERED OZAN KABAK IN WINS OVER SHEFFIELD UNITED, WOLVES AND RB LEIPZIG – HOW IMPORTANT WERE THE CLEAN-SHEETS?**

Massive. After the loss in the derby, all the players just couldn't wait to put things right and to put out a better performance and it was good to get that win at Sheffield United. For me and Ozan it was nice to get that clean-sheet as well.

With Ozan's performances you can see that he is adapting in the games. I had a similar sort of experience when I was playing on loan in Germany last year to coming back to play in the derby in the FA Cup. In the first 15 or 20 minutes I was a little bit shellshocked because I'd got used to the style of football and

how the game was played over there, so to then playing against Everton at Anfield was a bit of a shock at first. But you can see that he is adapting every day in training and in every game he plays, and hopefully we can form a bit of a partnership.



AFTER THE LOSS IN THE DERBY, ALL THE PLAYERS JUST COULDN'T WAIT TO PUT THINGS RIGHT AND TO PUT OUT A BETTER PERFORMANCE AND IT WAS GOOD TO GET THAT WIN AT SHEFFIELD UNITED





**AFTER MISSING OUT ON THE INITIAL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SQUAD, HOW GOOD WAS IT TO MAKE YOUR DEBUT AGAINST RB LEIPZIG?**

As I have progressed, my ambitions have changed over the past year. Premier League football was something I saw as an ambition. Then I was asked about Champions League football earlier in the season. Not many players get the chance to experience it and you have to earn that right.

At a club like Liverpool you can never rest on your laurels and think: I am safe now. It doesn't work like that. Circumstances have dictated it, but I still have plenty more to do. In terms of me and my ambitions, they are always changing.

**YOU WERE UNMISTAKABLE TOO, WEARING A HEADBAND FOR THE OCCASION...**

I'd had a bit of a cut and literally the first thing I did in training before the game was get my head on a ball, right where the cut and all the glue was. It hurt quite a bit and I thought: I don't want

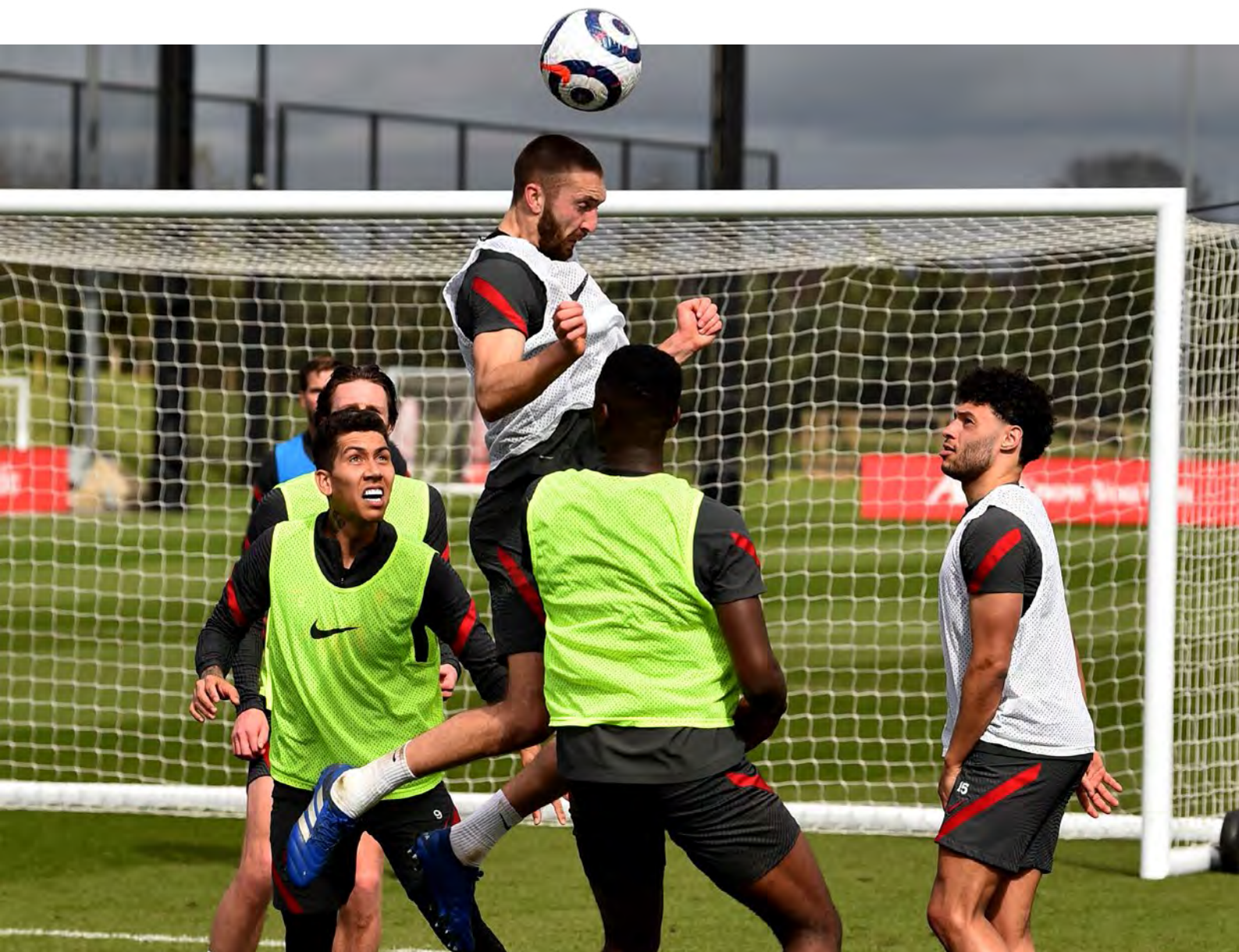
to be worrying about this through the game in case it opens up. So I just said to the physios, 'Can we get something on there and strap it up?' Plenty of players have played with much worse.



AT A CLUB LIKE LIVERPOOL YOU CAN NEVER REST ON YOUR LAURELS – I STILL HAVE PLENTY MORE TO DO AND IN TERMS OF ME AND MY AMBITIONS, THEY ARE ALWAYS CHANGING







**GIVEN THE CLUB'S INJURY PROBLEMS THIS SEASON, HOW BIG AN ACHIEVEMENT WOULD IT BE TO QUALIFY FOR NEXT SEASON'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE THROUGH THE TOP FOUR?**

If you look over the course of the season until now and you take into account the different injury problems and the bad fortune that we've had along with a difficult phase with results, I think achieving a Champions League position would be something that we could be happy with.

Of course, there's still a long way to go in the season yet so I think our mindset's got to be to take each game as it comes and focus on that game and on winning that game and then hopefully winning as many as we can until the end of the season.

We want to be winning every game that we go into. That's always been the mindset and that's not changed no matter who the opponent is.

**THERE'S CERTAINLY THE TALENT IN THE SQUAD TO MAKE IT THROUGH TO THE UCL QUARTER-FINALS?**

Certainly and we've shown that in the games that we played against Leipzig and we've also shown that in the league as well with some of our performances despite the injury woes that we have had. The boys that are fit have shown their talent and their capabilities – it's just a matter of trying to rediscover that consistency from game to game.

**WHAT DO YOU HOPE THIS SEASON WILL CONTRIBUTE IN TERMS OF YOUR CAREER?**

I'll be honest, I've tried not to look that far ahead. At the moment I just want to be concentrating on the games when they come along and when I'm called upon helping the team and putting in good performances. Only at the end of the season can I start considering what it might mean for me.

The most important thing at the moment is just to be putting in those good performances and helping the team when I am called upon. The experience I've been gaining this season is huge and more than I thought that I'd have had at the start of this season when I thought that I was looking like moving to the Championship.

When you compare that to what I've done so far this season, it's been massive for me. I've had the opportunity to play in ten Premier League games and in the knockout stages of the Champions League which has been huge for my development and a great experience. I'm grateful to have had that and I want to continue developing. Hopefully I'll continue to get the opportunities to do so.







Official Training Partner

AXA TRAINING CENTRE

# Know You Can





## HELPING HANDS

They have now scored over 210 goals for Liverpool FC between them, but the number of assists provided by Sadio Mane and Mo Salah also reached a milestone during the 3-0 win at Arsenal. Mane's touch for Diogo Jota to net the Reds' third goal was his 34th assist for LFC, while Salah has created 41 goals - taking their joint tally to 75 assists. They're much more than just goalscorers.





## THIAGO TURNS 30

Liverpool's Spanish midfield schemer celebrated his 30th birthday on 11 April and is enjoying working with Jürgen Klopp. "It's fantastic to play under him," he said. "You learn a lot and you have to get used to a different way of playing, something I like a lot. This means you have to adapt and develop." Happy birthday, Thiago!







# FASTER TOGETHER

Speed in every element.  
The new Nike Mercurial.



JOIN US AT [NIKE.COM/FOOTBALL](https://www.nike.com/football)



# FIGHT TO THE FINISH



The Reds may not be favourites for a top-four placing this season but anything can still happen – here's how the run-in looks for the contestants



## MAN UNITED

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's Red Devils finished third in the Premier League last season and are hoping to go one better this time as runners-up to their 'noisy neighbours'. Five of United's last eight fixtures are against sides who were in the top-half of the table as at the end of March.

**April:** Tottenham (A); Burnley (H); Leeds United (A).

**May:** Liverpool (H); Aston Villa (A); Leicester City (H); Fulham (H); Wolves (A).

## LEICESTER CITY

After just missing out on a Champions League spot last term by finishing fifth, Brendan Rodgers' side are pushing again for top-four status but face a tough season's end with visits to Old Trafford and Stamford Bridge ahead of a final-day meeting with Spurs at the King Power.

**April:** West Ham United (A); Crystal Palace (H), West Bromwich Albion (H).

**May:** Southampton (A); Newcastle United (H); Man United (A); Chelsea (A); Tottenham (H).







## CHELSEA

The appointment of Thomas Tuchel as appears to have been a masterstroke. The German took over a side in ninth but looks well-placed to secure a Champions League berth, although they face London derbies in half of their final eight matches.

*April: Crystal Palace (A); Brighton & Hove Albion (H), West Ham United (A).*

*May: Fulham (H); Manchester City (A); Arsenal (H); Leicester City (H); Aston Villa (A).*

## WEST HAM

David Moyes's men finished a modest 16th in the Premier League last season but went into April this year with Champions League ambitions. They'll also have an impact on events at the other end of the table, with visits to Newcastle, Burnley and Brighton still to come.

*April: Leicester City (H); Newcastle United (A); Chelsea (H).*

*May: Burnley (A); Everton (H); Brighton (A); West Bromwich Albion (A); Southampton (H).*





## TOTTENHAM

Home form could be crucial in determining Spurs' final placing. Jose Mourinho's team also go to Leicester City on the final day in a game which could have something hanging on it for both teams.

*April: Manchester United (H); Everton (A), Southampton (H).*

*May: Sheffield United (H); Leeds United (A); Wolves (H);*

*Aston Villa (H); Leicester City (A).*

## LIVERPOOL

The Reds face tough trips to Elland Road, Old Trafford, Turf Moor and the Hawthorns, but if they can start winning at Anfield again they'll be optimistic of being in the shake-up for qualification for Europe's leading tournament.

*April: Aston Villa (H); Leeds United (A); Newcastle United (H).*

*May: Man United (A); Southampton (H); West Brom (A);*

*Burnley (A); Crystal Palace (H).*



## PREMIER LEAGUE TOP NINE

(as at 5 April 2021)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Man City	31	23	5	3	66	21	45	74
Man Utd	30	17	9	4	58	33	25	60
Leicester C	30	17	5	8	53	34	19	56
West Ham	30	15	7	8	48	37	11	52
Chelsea	30	14	9	7	46	30	16	51
Tottenham	30	14	7	9	51	32	19	49
<b>LIVERPOOL</b>	30	14	7	9	51	36	15	49
Everton	29	14	5	10	41	38	3	47
Aston Villa	29	13	5	11	42	31	11	44

Positions 1-4 qualify for Champions League; 5 qualifies for Europa League; 6 qualifies for the play-off round of the new Europa Conference League.

If Man City win the Carabao Cup final on 25 April, their Europa Conference League berth would transfer to the highest-placed Premier League team not already qualified for European competition.





## EVERTON

A Europa League spot will be the minimum Carlo Ancelotti expects of his men after an impressive campaign, although they still have some tricky-looking games to navigate. It looks set to be a season of fine progress for a team who finished 12th last time around.

**TBC:** Aston Villa (A).

**April:** Brighton (A); Tottenham (H); Arsenal (A).

**May:** Aston Villa (H); West Ham (A); Sheffield United (H); Wolves (H); Man City (A).

## ASTON VILLA

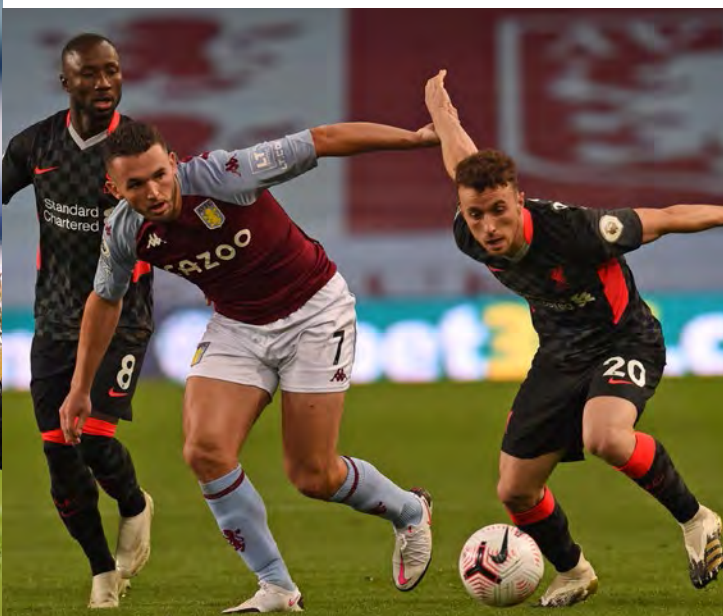
After finishing last season in 17th spot, Dean Smith's side have enjoyed a fantastic campaign so far but face a tough-looking run-in with seven of their final nine games against sides above them as of early April.

**TBC:** Everton (H).

**April:** Liverpool (A); Man City (H); West Brom (H).

**May:** Everton (A); Man Utd (H); Crystal Palace (A);

Tottenham (A); Chelsea (H).



## REMAINING MATCHDAYS (dates and kick-offs subject to change)

### Saturday 10 April

Liverpool v Aston Villa 3pm  
Crystal Palace v Chelsea 5.30pm

### Sunday 11 April

West Ham v Leicester 2.05pm  
Tottenham v Man United 4.30pm

### Monday 12 April

Brighton v Everton 8.15pm

### Friday 16 April

Everton v Tottenham 8pm

### Saturday 17 April

Newcastle v West Ham 12.30pm

### Sunday 18 April

Man United v Burnley 4pm

### Monday 19 April

Leeds United v Liverpool 8pm

### Tuesday 21 April

Chelsea v Brighton 8pm

### Wednesday 21 April

Tottenham v Southampton 6pm  
Aston Villa v Man City 8.15pm

### Thursday 22 April

Leicester City v West Brom 8pm  
Aston Villa v Man City 8.15pm

### Friday 23 April

Arsenal v Everton 8pm

### Saturday 24 April

Liverpool v Newcastle 3pm  
West Ham v Chelsea 5.30pm

### Sunday 25 April

Leeds United v Man United 2pm  
Aston Villa v West Brom 7pm

### Monday 26 April

Leicester v Crystal Palace 8pm

### Saturday 1 May (3pm kick-offs)

Burnley v West Ham  
Chelsea v Fulham

Everton v Aston Villa

Man United v Liverpool

Southampton v Leicester City

Tottenham v Sheffield United

### Saturday 8 May (3pm kick-offs)

Aston Villa v Man United

Leeds United v Tottenham

Leicester City v Newcastle

Liverpool v Southampton

Man City v Chelsea

West Ham v Everton

### Tuesday 11 May

Brighton v West Ham 7.45pm

Everton v Sheffield Utd 7.45pm

Crystal Palace v Aston Villa 8pm

Man United v Leicester City 8pm

West Brom v Liverpool 8pm

### Wednesday 12 May

Chelsea v Arsenal 7.45pm

Tottenham v Wolves 7.45pm

### Saturday 15 May (3pm kick-offs)

Burnley v Liverpool

Chelsea v Leicester City

Crystal Palace v Arsenal

Everton v Wolves

Man United v Fulham

Tottenham v Aston Villa

West Brom v West Ham

### Sunday 23 May (4pm kick-offs)

Arsenal v Brighton

Aston Villa v Chelsea

Leicester City v Tottenham

Liverpool v Crystal Palace

Man City v Everton

West Ham v Southampton

Wolves v Man United

### To be confirmed

Aston Villa v Everton



# MUZZ Be LOVE

Goalkeeper Alisson stays top-lipped as we pay tribute to those at LFC who wore magnificent moustaches before him









It's not often a humble moustache breaks the internet but that's what happened during the last international break when Reds keeper Alisson Becker emerged onto the field at the AXA Training Ground with his beard gone and a new-look lockdown moustache in its place.

Even manager Jürgen Klopp was moved to comment, as he stepped out alongside his no1, that the Brazilian looked "more like Ian Rush." And indeed the latter features in the following LFC Muzzie XI playing in a 4-4-2 formation.



### BRUCE GROBBELAAR

If Alisson's upper lip wasn't enough to get him the nod, it'd surely go to fellow keeper Brucie, who sported a moustache throughout a long and illustrious Liverpool career which took in 628 games between 1981 and 1994, and 13 major trophies.



### TOMMY SMITH

The legendary Liverpool hard man was as a fresh-faced youngster when he broke into the team but by the mid-Seventies came he as mean and moustachioed, notably for the 1974 FA Cup final against Newcastle United at Wembley.

### ALAN HENNEY

The be-muzzied (if that's a real word) left-back scored winners for Liverpool in two European Cup finals: against Real Madrid in Paris in 1981 then versus Roma via a penalty shootout three years later. By the way, cartoon character Barney Rubble, after whom he was nicknamed, never had one.



### MARK LAWRENSEN

Lawro's Liverpool look fluctuated between moustache and full-on beard but there always tended to be facial hair on view. The classy centre-back formed a brilliant partnership with always-clean-shaven Alan Hansen in the 1980s.





**terry McDermott**

With that head of tight, curly, dark hair and a full-bodied muzzy, Terry Mac was the local lad who fulfilled his dream of starring for the team he supported as a boy. The tash stayed with him after he hung up his boots and went into coaching.

**Matt McQueen**

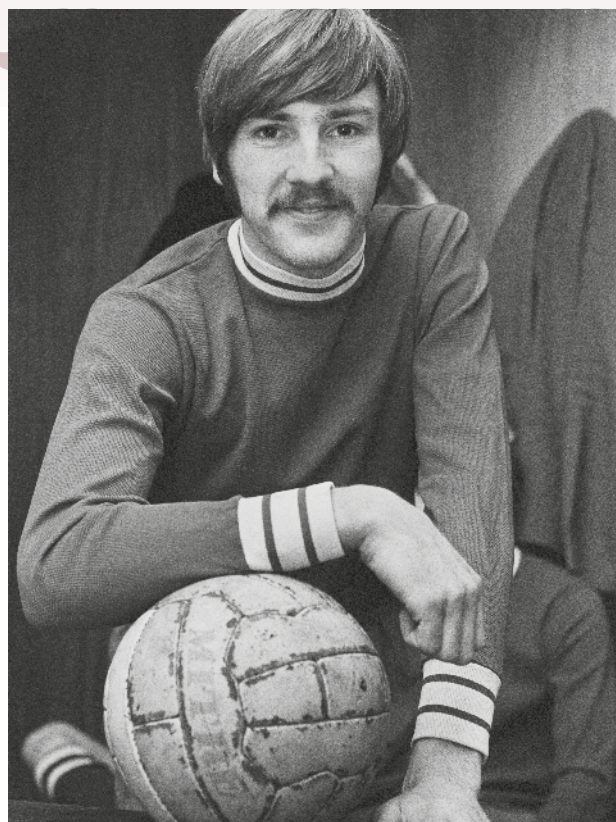
One of the club's great servants, the versatile Scot sported one of the very best handlebar moustaches in the business. Matt featured regularly in his first four seasons at Liverpool as both an outfield player and a goalkeeper.

**GRAEME SOUNESS**

"You're Graeme Souness aren't you? You look like me...Magnum as well." That was the classic Yosser Hughes line from Alan Bleasdale's Eighties drama *Boys from the Blackstuff*. Very much Tom Selleck territory for the supreme LFC midfielder of his day.

**Steve HEIGHWAY**

With Stevie Heighway on the wing we had dreams and songs to sings, and the man himself kept a well-cultivated moustache in trim. The former Skelmersdale United winger was signed by Bill Shankly and played 475 times, scoring 76 goals.







### JOHN WARK

The only man in this list to appear in the movie *Escape to Victory*, he was a regular plunderer of goals from midfield. John's scoring return of 42 in 108 games before he returned to Ipswich Town in 1988 was almost as impressive as that tash.



### JOHN ALDRIDGE

Liverpool fans in the late 80s could have been forgiven for thinking their team had purchased Ian Rush 2.0 when the Scouser arrived from Oxford United. Goalscoring machine? Tick. Groovy moustache? Double-tick.



### IAN RUSH

For most of his LFC career, Rushie kept his moustache as he thrilled the Kop with an astonishing 346 goals in 660 games between 1980 and 1996. He was the bane of many a goalkeeper's life, particularly his Welsh international team-mate Neville Southall (aussie avec muzzie) with 25 of his strikes coming against Everton.





## ON the BENCH...

**JIMMY CASE:** clean-shaven when he broke into the side but muzzied-up by the time he left for Brighton.



**NEIL DALG:** goalkeeper from way back who was 37 when he joined Liverpool from Sunderland with a well-crafted moustache.

**JACK BALMER:** scored 110 goals in 309 games between 1935 and 1952 and varied the look from the pencil type to a longer, bushier style.



**DAVID HODGSON:** early 80s pop-star cool from the flick-fringed, tight-tashed striker whose stay at Liverpool was brief but successful.

**DAVID JOHNSON:** wore his muzzie on and off with both the Reds (78 goals, four league titles, two European Cups and a League Cup) and the Blues across the park.



**ALEX RAISBECK:** captain of Liverpool's first top-flight title-winning team of season 1900/01, the skilful Scot also led the Reds to glory in 1905/06. "A man of Raisbeck's proportions, style and carriage would rivet attention anywhere," swooned the *Liverpool Echo*.

**JACK COX:** one of the club's best-ever wingers, his moustache was full-bodied in the main and finished off with wispy strands on either side.



## REMEMBER MO-VEMBER?

Liverpool players wore moustaches before red shirts when this football club was formed back in 1892, so it is no surprise that 'muzzies' have long been associated with the Redmen.

John Houlding, the local businessman who formed LFC, had a proper beard to go with his 'cookie-duster'. John McKenna, who served as secretary, manager and chairman in those early years, was the owner of a classic handlebar moustache, the most popular type of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

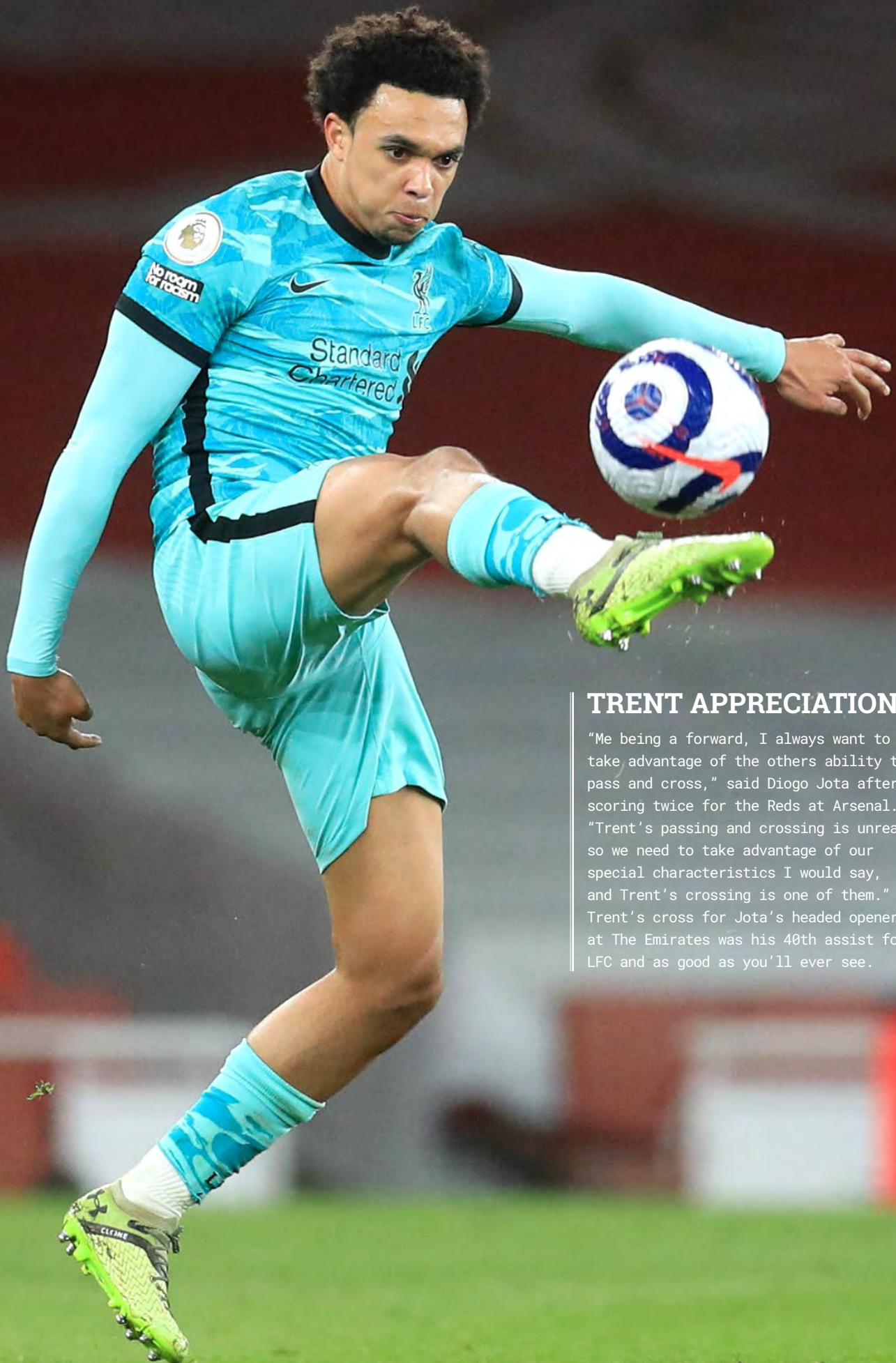
Indeed most players in Liverpool's 1892/93 squad, including brothers Hugh and Matt McQueen, sported moustaches at Anfield, a tradition that has come and gone over the years depending on facial fashions of the time.

The late 1970s and entire 80s were peak eras for Reds to wear a Liver Bird upon their chests and facial fuzz beneath their noses, while in popular culture there was Barry Grant's soft mate Terry Sullivan on Brookside Close, granite-hard Yosser Hughes in, as we've mentioned, *Boys from the Blackstuff*, and even old Freddie Boswell with his 'soup-strainer' in *Bread*. No wonder Harry Enfield took the mickey, not that any of us ever minded.

The year before last, the look was back in fashion as the health-charity fundraiser Movember paid homage to Eighties sports stars who wore moustaches. Former footballer Jimmy Bullard even dressed up as Graeme Souness while comedian Ben Miller was transformed into Bruce Grobbelaar.







## TRENT APPRECIATION

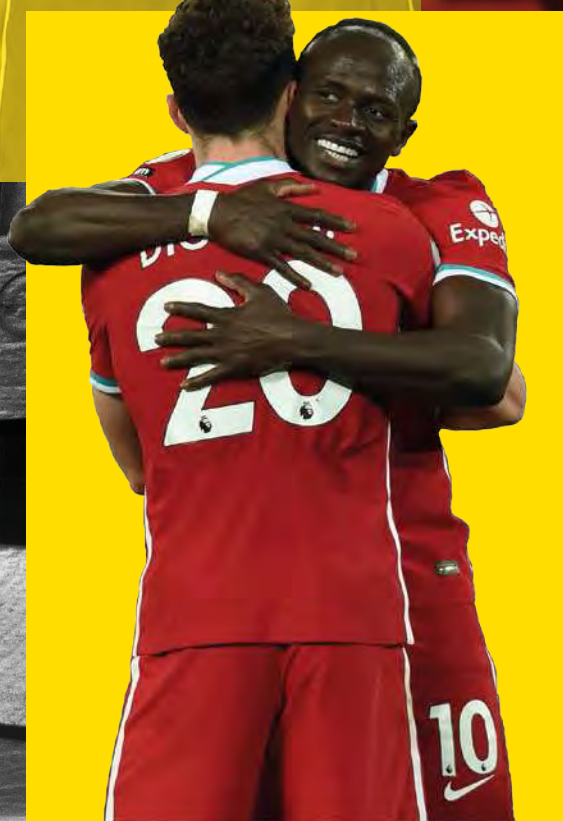
"Me being a forward, I always want to take advantage of the others ability to pass and cross," said Diogo Jota after scoring twice for the Reds at Arsenal. "Trent's passing and crossing is unreal so we need to take advantage of our special characteristics I would say, and Trent's crossing is one of them." Trent's cross for Jota's headed opener at The Emirates was his 40th assist for LFC and as good as you'll ever see.





**#GreaterTogether**

YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE



Official Travel Companion of Liverpool Football Club



1

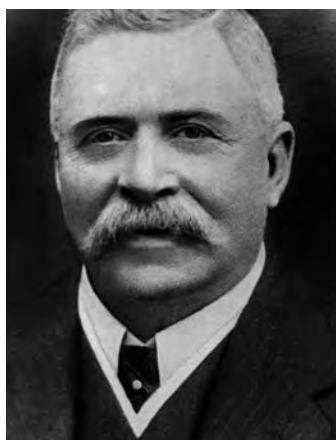
## **WILLIAM BARCLAY 1892-95**

Games as manager: 91

Player	Apps
1 Joe McQue	82
2 Duncan McLean	82
3 Matt McQueen	75
4 Malcolm McVean	74
5 John McCartney	71
6 Andrew Hannah	69
7 Hugh McQueen	61
8 Jim McBride	56
9 Harry Bradshaw	52
10 Jimmy Ross	31



2



## **JOHN McKENNA 1895-96**

Games as manager: 36

Player	Apps
1 Harry Bradshaw (near-left)	32
2 Joe McQue	32
3 Jimmy Ross	31
4 Frank Becton	30
5 John McCartney	28
6 Archie Goldie	28
7 Malcolm McVean	27
8 George Allan	26
9 Tom Wilkie	23
10 Fred Geary/Matt McQueen	22

3

## **TOM WATSON 1896-1918**

Games as manager: 742

Player	Apps
1 Arthur Goddard (second-right)	414
2 Jack Cox	361
3 Billy Dunlop	345
4 Alex Raisbeck	341
5 Bobby Robinson	271
6 Sam Hardy	240
7 Sam Raybould	226
8 Maurice Parry	221
9 Jack Parkinson	219
10 James Bradley	186





# PLAYING FOR THE BOSS

The stats-tastic LFC History website has calculated which footballers have appeared the most for every single Reds manager since records began

The team at lfchistory.net – a statistical goldmine for Reds everywhere – were busy during the March international break, calculating the most-used players by every Liverpool FC manager since the club was formed in 1892. The top 10 appearance-makers under during each managerial reign makes for fascinating reading and includes plenty of names you might not expect to see...



4



## GEORGE PATTERSON 1918 Games as manager: 18

Player	Apps
1 Ken Campbell (right)	18
2 Harry Chambers	18
3 Donald Mackinlay	18
4 Jackie Sheldon	18
5 Bill Lacey	17
6 Albert Pearson	14
7 William Jenkinson	12
8 Walter Wadsworth	12
9 Dick Forshaw	11
10 Harry Lewis/Ephraim Longworth	10





5

### DAVID ASHWORTH 1919-23

Games as manager: 139

Player	Apps
1 Tom Bromilow (second-right)	132
2 Walter Wadsworth	132
3 Donald Mackinlay	118
4 Harry Chambers	113
5 Dick Forshaw	104
6 Elisha Scott	100
7 Bill Lacey	98
8 Ephraim Longworth	92
9 Tommy Lucas	69
10 John Bamber	66



6



### MATT McQUEEN 1923-28

Games as manager: 229

Player	Apps
1 Donald Mackinlay (with ball)	194
2 Harry Chambers	193
3 Elisha Scott	190
4 Tommy Lucas	187
5 Fred Hopkin	181
6 Tom Bromilow	176
7 Dick Forshaw	161
8 Jock McNab	157
9 Walter Wadsworth	85
10 David Pratt	84

7



### GEORGE PATTERSON 1928-36

Games as manager (second term): 366

Player	Apps
1 Gordon Hodgson (right)	305
2 Jimmy McDougall	299
3 Tiny Bradshaw	258
4 Tom Morrison	250
5 Arthur Riley	223
6 James Jackson	160
7 Bob Done	150
8 Elisha Scott	136
9 Archie McPherson	133
10 Willie Steel	128



8

### GEORGE KAY 1936-51

Games as manager: 324

Player	Apps
1 Jack Balmer (front, second-from-left)	282
2 Phil Taylor	269
3 Ray Lambert	195
4 Billy Liddell	194
5 Willie Fagan	182
6 Bob Paisley	178
7 Bill Jones	171
8 Cyril Sidlow	165
9 Albert Stubbins	154
10 Berry Nieuwenhuys	150







9

**DON WELSH 1951-56** (3rd row, in suit)  
Games as manager: 232

Player	Apps
1 Billy Liddell (2nd row, 4th-from-right)	214
2 Laurie Hughes	146
3 Ray Lambert	140
4 Jimmy Payne	136
5 Roy Saunders	109
6 Alan A'Court	106
7 Geoff Twentyman	106
8 Bill Jones	100
9 John Evans	95
10 Bob Paisley	93

10

**PHIL TAYLOR 1956-59** (2nd row, with ball)  
Games as manager: 150

Player	Apps
1 Ronnie Moran (2nd row, far-left)	147
2 John Molyneux	141
3 Alan A'Court	140
4 Tommy Younger	127
5 Johnny Wheeler	121
6 Jimmy Melia	120
7 Dick White	110
8 Billy Liddell	107
9 Geoff Twentyman	78
10 Jimmy Harrower	65

11

**BILL SHANKLY 1959-74**  
Games as manager: 783

Player	Apps
1 Ian Callaghan (middle with Bill)	660
2 Chris Lawler	532
3 Tommy Smith	497
4 Roger Hunt	477
5 Ron Yeats	454
6 Ian St John	425
7 Peter Thompson	416
8 Emlyn Hughes	406
9 Tommy Lawrence	390
10 Gerry Byrne	331



12



**BOB PAISLEY 1974-83**  
Games as manager: 535

Player	Apps
1 Phil Neal (left with Bob)	506
2 Ray Clemence	408
3 Phil Thompson	404
4 Ray Kennedy	393
5 Kenny Dalglish	350
6 Terry McDermott	329
7 Graeme Souness	298
8 Alan Hansen	279
9 Jimmy Case	269
10 Steve Heighway	262



13

### JOE FAGAN 1983-85

Games as manager: 131

Player	Apps
1 Bruce Grobbelaar (second-right)	131
2 Alan Hansen	129
3 Phil Neal	128
4 Alan Kennedy	116
5 Mark Lawrenson	116
6 Ian Rush	109
7 Kenny Dalglish	104
8 Ronnie Whelan	93
9 Sammy Lee	92
10 Steve Nicol	86



14



### KENNY DALGLISH 1985-91

Games as manager: 307

Player	Apps
1 Bruce Grobbelaar (left with Kenny)	266
2 Ronnie Whelan	257
3 Steve McMahon	253
4 Steve Nicol	232
5 Ian Rush	226
6 Alan Hansen	212
7 Gary Gillespie	181
8 Jan Molby	172
9 John Barnes	168
10 Peter Beardsley	161

15



### RONNIE MORAN 1991

Games as caretaker-manager: 10

Player	Apps
1 Peter Beardsley (right)	10
2 Ray Houghton	10
3 Glen Hysen	10
4 Jan Molby	10
5 Steve Nicol	10
6 Ian Rush	10
7 Gary Ablett	9
8 John Barnes	9
9 Steve Staunton	8
10 David Speedie	8



16

### GRAEME SOUNESS 1991-94

Games as manager: 157

Player	Apps
1 Steve Nicol (right with Graeme)	121
2 Steve McManaman	113
3 Ian Rush	111
4 Rob Jones	106
5 Mark Wright	104
6 Bruce Grobbelaar	103
7 David Burrows	97
8 Mike Marsh	97
9 Mark Walters	96
10 Jamie Redknapp	76



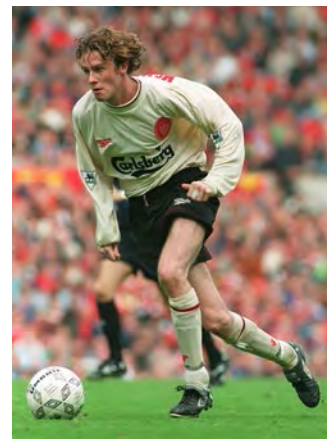


17

### ROY EVANS 1994-98

Games as manager: 226

Player	Apps
1 Steve McManaman (second-right)	218
2 David James	213
3 Robbie Fowler	193
4 John Barnes	163
5 Jamie Redknapp	161
6 Phil Babb	140
7 Rob Jones	137
8 Stig Inge Bjornebye	130
9 Michael Thomas	127
10 Neil Ruddock	120



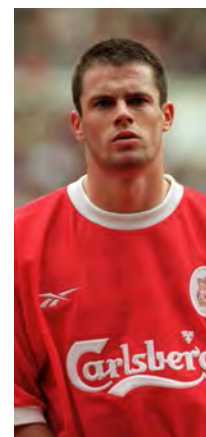
18

### ROY EVANS & GERARD HOULLIER 1998

Games as joint-managers: 18



Player	Apps
1 Jamie Carragher (right)	18
2 Michael Owen	18
3 Patrik Berger	17
4 Jason McAteer	17
5 Vegard Heggem	16
6 Paul Ince	16
7 Steve Staunton	16
8 Steve McManaman	14
9 Karl-Heinz Riedle	13
10 Robbie Fowler/Jamie Redknapp	12



19

### GERARD HOULLIER 1998-2004

Games as manager: 307

Player	Apps
1 Sami Hyypia (right with Gerard)	264
2 Jamie Carragher	260
3 Steven Gerrard	240
4 Michael Owen	233
5 Danny Murphy	230
6 Emile Heskey	223
7 Didi Hamann	208
8 Stephane Henchoz	201
9 Vladimir Smicer	168
10 John Arne Riise	147



20

### RAFAEL BENITEZ 2004-10

Games as manager: 350



Player	Apps
1 Jamie Carragher (left with Rafa)	326
2 Steven Gerrard	292
3 Pepe Reina	259
4 Xabi Alonso	210
5 John Arne Riise	201
6 Sami Hyypia	200
7 Dirk Kuyt	200
8 Steve Finnan	186
9 Javier Mascherano	138
10 Yossi Benayoun/Peter Crouch	134



21

### ROY HODGSON 2010-11

Games as manager: 31

Player	Apps
1 Pepe Reina (right with Roy)	27
2 David Ngog	26
3 Martin Skrtel	26
4 Lucas	25
5 Jamie Carragher	21
6 Maxi Rodriguez	21
7 Fernando Torres	21
8 Sotirios Kyrgiakos	20
9 Joe Cole	19
10 Raul Meireles	19



22



### KENNY DALGLISH 2011-12

Games as manager (second term): 74

Player	Apps
1 Pepe Reina (left with Kenny)	69
2 Martin Skrtel	68
3 Dirk Kuyt	67
4 Andy Carroll	56
5 Luis Suarez	52
6 Jamie Carragher	48
7 Jordan Henderson	48
8 Stewart Downing	46
9 Glen Johnson	46
10 Daniel Agger	44

23

### BRENDAN RODGERS 2012-15

Games as manager: 166

Player	Apps
1 Jordan Henderson (right with Brendan)	140
2 Martin Skrtel	129
3 Steven Gerrard	126
4 Raheem Sterling	126
5 Philippe Coutinho	112
6 Simon Mignolet	104
7 Glen Johnson	101
8 Joe Allen	99
9 Lucas	98
10 Luis Suarez	81



24



### JÜRGEN KLOPP 2015-PRESENT

Games as manager: 308

(up to and inc Arsenal away)

Player	Apps
1 Roberto Firmino (left with Gaffer)	275
2 James Milner	235
3 Gini Wijnaldum	227
4 Sadio Mane	208
5 Jordan Henderson	204
6 Mohamed Salah	193
7 Trent Alexander-Arnold	169
8 Andy Robertson	167
9 Divock Origi	153
10 Dejan Lovren	141



# YOUR PERSONAL LFC MASTERCLASS

SHOOT  
LIKE  
SALAH

PASS  
LIKE  
THIAGO

DRIBBLE  
LIKE  
MANÉ

- ✦ Learn to play like your LFC heroes
- ✦ 55 exclusive video tutorials
- ✦ First team player examples & coach demos

**START NOW**

**LFCEACADEMY.COM**

"The eAcademy gives you a unique insight into the skills we value the most at LFC"

Jürgen Klopp



**SUPPORT US  
SAFELY.**



# HEY DJ

Diogo Jota's debut season as a Liverpool player has been a mix of highs and lows but he's determined to turn up the volume for the finale









**When Diogo Jota fired in the winner against his former club Wolverhampton Wanderers in mid-March, the attacker also earned himself a new nickname in the process.**

The summer signing scored on the stroke of half-time at Molineux to earn Liverpool an important 1-0 victory, taking his goalscoring tally for the Reds into double-figures in the process. Two more ruthlessly clinical Jota goals would be added in the next away game, at Arsenal in early April.

After the Wolves win, while conducting his post-match analysis in the Sky Sports studio, former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher dubbed the number 20 'Jota the Slotter' for the manner in which he has taken many of his goals this season.

Liverpool fans, players and staff were delighted to see the Portuguese international back on the pitch last month after his season had come to an abrupt halt just before Christmas just as he was lighting up his debut campaign with the Reds.

A knee injury sustained in the final Champions League group game at FC Midtjylland kept him sidelined for ten weeks and coincided with a period when the Reds started to find it harder to hit the back of the net.

However, Diogo knuckled down to his rehabilitation, putting in the hard yards in the gym at the AXA Training Centre. By February there were the first photos of him outdoors and back on the grass, and finally images of him doing drills and ball-work with the rest of the squad.

Neither player nor backroom staff took any shortcuts on his road to recovery, and it was a week before Christmas that he gave a first public update on his progress.

"I'm doing my best to be back as soon as possible" he told the club website. "Things are going well but knee injuries are always complicated so we cannot rush things, but I am doing well and I will be back on the field as soon as possible.

"Now I am supporting the team from the 'outside' and it is not easy – it's even harder when you suffer as a fan and you can do literally nothing to help the team on the field!"

Jota had announced himself as a Liverpool player by scoring

on his Premier League bow for the Reds in their 3-1 Premier League win over Arsenal at Anfield, volleying past Gunners keeper Bernd Leno just nine minutes after coming off the bench to replace Sadio Mane.

Later came a run of eight goals in as many matches – including a hat-trick in the Champions League game at Atalanta – and he also set a new club record as the first Liverpool player to have scored in each of his first four home top-flight appearances. Tommy Robertson, Peter Cormack, Kenny Dalglish and Luis Garcia had previously all found the net in each of their first three home league games.

Having described himself as 'a confidence player', Jota admitted that making a strong start to life at Anfield gave his self-belief a big boost.



## DIOGO'S DOZEN...

**1** Arsenal (H) Premier League 28 September 2020.  
Makes the points safe with a volley from the edge of the box. He takes a touch to control before shooting after defender David Luiz inadvertently picks him out trying to head clear a Trent Alexander-Arnold cross from the right.



**2** Sheffield United (H) Premier League 24 October 2020.  
A back-post header from Sadio Mane's looping left-wing cross. It helps the Reds complete a turnaround after trailing to a Sander Berge penalty early in the game at Anfield, and it's Diogo's first effort of the match.





# I FEEL LIKE I HAD BEEN A PART OF THIS TEAM FOR A LONG TIME ALTHOUGH IT WAS ONLY THREE OR FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE INJURY



In the club's matchday programme before Christmas he revealed: "Yes, it has helped a lot. I think for me being an attacking player, it is always important to score and participate in the final third of the team-play, so getting chances and assisting has given a big boost of confidence.

"I feel like I had been a part of this team for a long time although it was only three or four months before the injury.

"Of course it was nice to set a new record. Sometimes stats can be funny and it's always nice to look at them after a game when they are positive. What really matters is the final score and all I want is for Liverpool to win, and if I'm out on the field I will be giving my 100 per cent to help us do that all the time.

"In Portugal they used to say the hardest thing is not to arrive but to stay there. I want to be a big influence in this club and that's what I try to do every day."

Prior to the Midtjylland fixture, manager Jürgen Klopp had been asked about Jota's form in the red jersey in what was becoming a season impacted by injuries.

"He's doing exceptionally well at the moment," he replied. "But to keep that standard we have to work really hard, we have to keep him in a good shape, score goals because the other boys [Salah, Mane and Firmino] do that usually. But they are very happy that Diogo had that brilliant start, as I am obviously.

"For us, the most important thing was that we don't have to bite our nails pretty much in each game. [But] that's not a real 'lateral' situation because it's only one player and it's the only line – the front-three – where we have more players than we can line up in one game [the established trio plus Divock Origi and Jota]."

In a season seemingly plagued by bad luck, Liverpool's options upfront for the rest of December and the new year were curtailed by Jota's subsequent injury in Denmark.

Forward Roberto Firmino reflected: "It's difficult, isn't it?"



**3** FC Midtjylland (H) Champions League, 27 October 2020.  
A tap-in at the Kop end after a lovely one-two between Alexander-Arnold and Xherdan Shaqiri. It's Diogo's first Champions League goal since December 2016 (for FC Porto versus Leicester City).



**4** West Ham United (H) Premier League 31 October 2020.  
Comes off the bench to grab a late winner for the Reds who had been trailing to the Hammers, calmly slotting his shot past visiting keeper Lukasz Fabianski after being played in by a sumptuous pass from Shaqiri.





IT HAS AFFECTED US, OF COURSE. IT WAS A GREAT LOSS TO OUR TEAM TO LOSE THREE GREAT PLAYERS IN VIRGIL [VAN DIJK], JOE [GOMEZ] AND JOTA BEFORE THIS AS THEY ARE ALL PLAYERS WHO CONTRIBUTE A LOT AND SHOW WHAT THEY'RE CAPABLE OF



Unfortunately in football injuries are something that can always happen and so we need to look after ourselves and take care on the pitch during games.

"It has affected us, of course. It was a great loss to our team to lose three great players in Virgil [van Dijk], Joe [Gomez] and Jota before this as they are all players who contribute a lot and show what they're capable of. But we always aim to think about

the players available in the squad and believe in our potential and what we can achieve."

Jota made his return to action as a second-half substitute in the home reverse to Chelsea and immediately looked sharp.

He returned to the starting line-up three days later as the Reds suffered another narrow defeat at Anfield, this time at the hands of Fulham. However, there were positive signs of Jota's influence helping the frontmen and only an acrobatic save from Cottagers keeper Alphonse Areola early in the second half denied him a goal.

Next on his comeback trail the lively forward was in Champions League action as the Reds returned to Budapest for the second leg of their last-16 clash with RB Leipzig.

Twenty minutes from time he played in Mohamed Salah for the goal that calmed any lingering nerves among Kopites watching on TV back home, paving the way for an eventual 2-0 win and 4-0 aggregate victory.

Klopp admitted that Jota's absence during the winter period had been felt keenly by himself and the squad. Ahead of the Premier League game at Wolves he told reporters: "He was a big miss, a big miss. I think the moment when he got injured he was in a really good moment, which always then makes the fact – which is already bad – that the player is injured even worse.

"What does he bring? His qualities. He can play upfront in all three positions, he played all three positions for us and that is already really helpful. He can play them on a really high level, so he makes us stronger, which is really good.



**5** Atalanta (A) Champions League 3 November 2020. Runs off the shoulder of defender Jose Luis Palomino to spin in behind and race onto a pass from Trent before stabbing a left-footed finish over keeper Marco Sportiello.



**6** Atalanta (A) Champions League 3 November 2020. Receives a fine diagonal ball from Joe Gomez inside the area and demonstrates fine control to bring the ball down with his left before drilling a power-shot past Sportiello with his right.







**7** Atalanta (A) Champions League 3 November 2020.  
Sprints forward to latch onto Sadio Mane's precise pass and rounds Sportiello before calmly stroking into the empty net to complete his hat-trick in Bergamo.



**8** Leicester City (H) Premier League 22 November 2020.  
A near-post header from a pinpoint Andy Robertson cross from the left doubles the Reds' advantage against the Foxes in a game they go on to win 3-0.





WE MUST STICK [TO]  
THINKING ABOUT US.  
THERE ARE A LOT OF  
GAMES STILL TO PLAY,  
SO IF WE WIN ALL THOSE  
GAMES I'M PRETTY SURE  
WE CAN AT LEAST GAIN A  
SPOT IN THE CHAMPIONS  
LEAGUE, SO LET'S KEEP  
DOING OUR JOB



"Now he is back and had to play the first game immediately [for] 90 minutes, which was definitely not planned and just happened in the game because of other things we had to do. That was then the reason why he played 70 in the second game [versus Leipzig]."

"He was fine, he felt after the game okay, the next day he was a bit knackered and that's normal. Now he should be fine again. It is really important that we have him back for plenty of reasons."

Jota showcased some of those on his return to Molineux, notably with that decisive goal against his old employers.

After the game he told Sky Sports: "I had been here [at Wolves] for over three years, working every day with almost everyone in that dressing-room. Obviously it was special for me, I just wish the fans would have been here as well. But anyway, a good result for us and for me."

"Against these kind of teams, they defend well [so] we need to

take advantage when they are unbalanced and they were at that moment. The quick triangulation from, I think, Sadio to Mo and back again and then me on the left, it was a good movement, a good goal and helped the team to reach a victory that we were looking for for a long time in the Premier League.

"We need to improve a lot, in this competition especially, and hopefully this could be the start of a great run until the end of the season."

On the back of those victories against RB Leipzig and Wolves, the striker admitted he was uncertain whether the March international break had come at a good time.

"We had two wins and two clean-sheets, so it could have meant we had a good run of form. We'll never know, but we had the break, so it was what it was and now we need to come back as we left it at Wolves."

## 9 Brighton (A) Premier League 28 November 2020.

A brilliant solo strike at the Amex as he receives the ball from Mo Salah before driving across the edge of the area and scoring with a reverse-angled right-footer across Mat Ryan.



## 10 Wolves (A) Premier League 15 March 2021.

A low left-footed finish that beats his Portugal team-mate Rui Patrício after a sweeping counter-attack which also involves strike-partners Salah and Mane.







"We must stick [to] thinking about us. There are a lot of games still to play, so if we win all those games I'm pretty sure we can at least gain a spot in the Champions League, so let's keep doing our job."

With his national team Jota continued where he left off at Molineux. After staying on the bench for Portugal's first World Cup 2022 qualifier, a 1-0 home win over Azerbaijan, he was recalled by manager Fernando Santos for their trip to Serbia. He scored twice in the first half before his side were pegged back after the break as the game ended in a 2-2 draw.

He was also on target in game three, netting the equaliser away to Luxembourg in his country's 3-1 victory.

Such intense international action was arguably the reason why Diogo started on the bench for the subsequent return to Premier League duty, and he came on after 60 minutes against Arsenal to



## 11 Arsenal (A) Premier League 3 April 2021.

Finds space between two defenders to head Trent's brilliant curling delivery past Arsenal keeper Bernd Leno moments after he comes on as a sub for Andy Robertson.



## 12 Arsenal (A) Premier League 3 April 2021.

Slams home his second from close-range with eight minutes left at the Emirates, after more good work from Alexander-Arnold and a little help from Sadio Mane.







break the deadlock with a thumping header from a fabulous Trent Alexander-Arnold delivery. His second on 82 minutes, rifled home from close-range, made it 3-0 to Liverpool.

"Diogo played a little bit too much for Portugal for my taste," said Jürgen Klopp post-match. "[That's] not criticism of Portugal, just that he was long injured [so] he felt it a little bit.

Jota is due to be back at the Puskas Arena in Budapest in June for two of Portugal's group games at the delayed Euro 2020 tournament, against Hungary and France, with Germany the other team in a tough-looking section.

Before that, of course, there is still much work to do with a Liver Bird on his chest.

Everyone at LFC is hoping that 'Jota the Slotter' will be very much in evidence during the final two months of this campaign and for many seasons to come.



## DIOGO VERSUS STINGRAYJNR AND TEKKZ

**Diogo Jota tested his EA SPORTS FIFA 21 skills as he took on the club's two ePremier League grand finalists for LFC's ePL All Star Game.**

Both finalists showed why they earned they spot to represent Liverpool FC, with Dan 'Stingrayjnr' Ray beating Diogo 3-0 and Donovan 'Tekkz' Hunt triumphing 5-0. The pair had played their way to the finals to represent LFC across the Xbox and PlayStation consoles, which took place from 23 to 26 March. They both reached the quarter-finals.

Diogo was crowned champion of the ePremier League Player invitational tournament last season, after beating Alexander-Arnold on a Golden Goal in the final following a 1-1 draw in 90 minutes.

He said: "It's been an honour to compete against two fantastic players who are extremely deserving of their places in the grand finals. Their performance here just shows their immense level of skill. Playing in a friendly game like this, I can only imagine how intense it is for these two."



**LFCTV GO**



# ONE MONTH **FREE** TRIAL

Watch Anywhere,  
Cancel Anytime.

## The LFC Streaming Service

- **Replays**
- **News**
- **Features**
- **Boxsets**
- **Documentaries**
- **Classic Matches**

**Start Now**

**Use Promo Code: 2021GOFREE**

**video.liverpoolfc.com**

T&Cs apply

**WE ARE LIVERPOOL.  
THIS MEANS MORE.**









# FIVE STARR

A photograph of footballer Georginio Wijnaldum in a starting crouch, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt with the number 5 and red shorts, positioned in front of the word 'STARR'.

Going into last month's international break Georginio Wijnaldum had featured in every Premier League game of 2020/21 – and here the Dutch midfielder talks candidly about this most unforgiving of seasons





### "BY FAR THE HARDEST SEASON"

I mean both mentally and physically. If you look at how the situation is with COVID and everything, things are obviously more different than ever before. Playing with no fans is a really big part of what has made it so difficult and also the situations that we've had to deal with as a team, with the injuries that we've had and players who have had COVID at various times too.

So it's been really tough and up to now I've played nearly every game. In a shorter season that costs a lot of energy and so you also have to do everything you can to keep fit.

I don't think anybody expected it to be quite so demanding. Of course we knew it would be more difficult because we'd just turned champions and we were going to play our games without fans and they are a really big part in our success. But I don't think anybody expected the situations that we've had to face with injuries and so on.

So, yes, this has been by far the most difficult season I have had in my career so far, but we just need to try to deal with it because we still have games to play and we still have to try and bring this season to a good end.



### "WE KNOW WE CAN DO BETTER"

People have asked me if it is natural for there to be a drop-off in our Premier League form after picking up 196 points in the previous two seasons. I think the answer has to be yes when you consider the injury-list that we have had.

Even so, we have still not dealt well enough with some situations we have faced in the games. We've still played some good games despite





# "PLAYING EVERY GAME IN A SHORTER SEASON COSTS A LOT OF ENERGY, YOU HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING TO KEEP FIT – I DON'T THINK ANYBODY EXPECTED IT TO BE SO DEMANDING"

those problems but we know that we have needed to be more clinical. That's what I mean by 'not good enough' because I still think the team is good enough to change it around.

Of course it would be better if all the players who are injured were in the squad but that's the situation we are in and I'm still confident that we can perform better in the last couple of months. It's a challenge to turn it around but I believe that we have a team which can do that.

## "WE HAVE TO STAY POSITIVE"

Of course I've been disappointed with the way it has gone in the first few months after Christmas and with the way a lot of the results. But on the other side of it, we still have games to play, so I am trying to focus on what's coming up and do my best.

Some moments in the games haven't gone for us and we haven't always got our pressing right. For example, in the home game against Chelsea we gave them the opportunities to play the football they wanted to play. In some parts we were pressing really well and I also have to say that in some moments in that game we played good football. But in the end we lost 1-0 so it meant nothing.

If you look at that game overall, it was not a bad game from us, but at a key moment they had a counter-attack and Mason Mount had a

one-v-one against Fabinho and no-one was there to help him. When he dribbled inside, he could have a free shot.

We were really disappointed in that because this season we have given away far too many of those kind of chances and situations.

You will always have some moments in a game where the pressing is not always top-level because it costs a lot of energy so it's not always possible. That has also happened in the past with us because the way we play, there is a lot of intensity and a lot of power you have to have during a game.

When you look at this season as a whole, we have given away too many of those situations [like the Chelsea goal]. It's more about changing those moments – we have to make it so difficult for a team to score a goal, or [if you like] much more difficult for us to concede goals.

## "CONFIDENT WE CAN FIX IT"

When results go against us I know the fans don't always want to hear that the answer is just working hard. But what else can you say – that we should just leave it the way it is?

Of course we should work hard. Conceding some of the goals we have isn't anything to do with injuries or things that may be against us – we can do much better so we just have to show that we want it







“IN THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE WE KNOW THAT IT WILL BE REALLY DIFFICULT GIVEN THE QUALITY OF THE TEAMS STILL THERE AT THIS STAGE – BUT IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE”



more. We need to do everything we can to get confidence and try to win games. I don't think there is anything else we can do.

We've had to deal with a lot of situations this season: injuries, things on the pitch, chances we've created and not scored, goals we've conceded where we could've defended better. It is really frustrating and disappointing because we all know that we can do better.

I am confident that we can deal with the situation we face because a lot of those things are issues that we can fix on the pitch.

#### **"YOUNG PLAYERS HAVE HAD TO BE READY"**

The number of changes at centre-back is one of the main reasons that the league form has been up and down. There have been a lot of injuries and also the players who have been injured have been really important for us, players who would've played in most of the games.

Players who would normally play less, and would have more chance to get used to our way of playing, have had to play way more than they normally would. You look at the young players who have come in and they've had to be ready to perform well immediately.

In other situations you could probably let them play when you are 3-0 up in a game or something like that, or when you play in a cup, and let them get used to the level of playing and the way we want to play. But they haven't had the time to learn and I think that's one of the main reasons why things have been tough.

The defensive 'shuffles' are not the only reason why it has gone the way it has, but of course it has made it way more difficult.







#### **"IF YOU DON'T SCORE, DON'T CONCEDE"**

It is difficult to say why the poor run of Premier League results at Anfield has happened. You can look at all kinds of reasons: confidence, being too busy with the bad things that have happened to us with injuries and bad luck.

I don't think in many of the games we have had a really bad game. In parts we have played some really good football, but we haven't given those kind of goals away at home before.

We haven't been creating enough chances, either. Of course during a game if you have ten chances, not all ten will go in – or you have to be really lucky as we were away against Crystal Palace when almost every chance we had went in.

Everyone knows in football that you will create more chances than you will score goals. But in our case when we have needed a goal we

haven't been able to produce one. That's why it's so important that we do all the other things even better because if you don't score, you should not concede.

The manager has said to us that even in the situation that we're in, we have created chances and we have played good football in parts of the game, but there are other things that we have to change.

The poor home results would not be happening if there were fans in the stadium. When you have difficult times during the game the fans are there to help you get over it, to give even more energy. Of course they make us stronger, everyone can see that. We can do better even without fans in the stadium, but I'm sure that the situation would not have happened if they were in the stadium.

#### **THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE IS STILL A TARGET**

At the beginning of the season we just wanted to play for everything that we could win and doing well the Champions League was one of our targets. After beating Leipzig we know that it will be really difficult given the quality of the teams still there at this stage – but it is not impossible.

In some games this season we have showed what we are capable of, but we have to leave the talking behind and just show it on the pitch. We know what we have to do, to show on the pitch how much we want it.

Is it realistic to think we can win it? It's realistic for everyone that is through to the last eight. It's not always the team everyone thinks is the best that wins the Champions League, so everyone has a chance. Of course, winning it would change a lot about how we think back on this season – but only if we win it. I don't think anything else is enough.



## **LEADING LIGHTS**

***Gini became the fourth man to lead the Reds to victory this season when he was captain for the 2-0 win at Sheffield United at the end of February. It was the second time the Dutchman has led Liverpool out, following the home game against Burnley in January.***

*"It was a good feeling, of course. Every time you win a game it's good and especially after the run we had with the losses. It gave us confidence again and also a good spirit in the team."*

*Gini was the fifth player to wear the armband for the Reds this season following regular captain Jordan Henderson, vice-captain James Milner, Virgil van Dijk and Trent Alexander-Arnold.*

*The no5 also led the team out for the Premier League home fixture against Chelsea, the Champions League round-of-16 second leg against RB Leipzig in Budapest, the 1-0 Premier League win at Wolves and the first leg of the European tie with Real Madrid.*



**"JÜRGEN IS A FIGHTER"**

The tough run of results has been really hard for everyone to cope with, but I think how Jürgen has dealt with it towards the team has been really good. He is the leader and does everything he can to keep our confidence so that we can strike back.

The manager is a fighter, not someone who gives up. He is a person who can change it around because, in my opinion, he is also a 'mental coach' who can say the things that you need.

**"WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU..."**

I am confident that we can come back and finish the season strongly but I think that we should leave talk about the first four places aside and just think game-by-game and not think too far ahead.

Of course it also depends on the results of the other teams and we cannot control that. We can only control our performances so I think that's something that we have to focus on.

Ultimately this season's experiences will make us stronger as a team and as a club. This is the first time we have had to deal with this kind of situation. We will definitely learn from it, but of course it is the hard way to learn and no-one wants that in football. In this case we have to learn quick because we want to win games.

**"THE FANS WANTED THAT TITLE"**

Was it harder to win the Premier League in 2020 or the Champions League in 2019? I think for the Liverpool fans, they would say the Premier League. For the club, both trophies were really important and of course they were good to win, but I think for the fans the Premier League was the one they really wanted.

They had seen the team win the Champions League but hadn't won the Premier League for 30 years. If I look at the situations that we were in at those moments, both were really hard to win but the Premier League probably seemed easier because we won almost every game. The distance between ourselves and the second-placed team was so

"I HOPE  
THAT I CAN  
CONTINUE TO  
PLAY FOR MANY,  
MANY YEARS"



much that it looked easier, but that was only because we put ourselves in that position.

The situations that we had to deal with in the Champions League were harder. We had to play against really good opponents and, of course, the Barcelona game in the semi-final where we had to come from 3-0 behind to win 4-0 at home showed that we had to deal with bigger situations than in the Premier League. But of course that was also because in the Premier League we were extremely consistent and also our opponents slipped up in a few games.

**"I JUST WANT TO KEEP PLAYING"**

I hope that I can continue to play for many, many years. When I look at Cristiano Ronaldo or Zlatan Ibrahimovic or, back in the day, Paolo Maldini, Andrea Pirlo, Clarence Seedorf, they all played at a high level for many, many years.

I hope that I can play for many years like that too. That would be really good.







LFC × JOHN SMEDLEY COLLECTION



[liverpoolfc.com/store](https://liverpoolfc.com/store)







# NOW IT'S OVER TO GEORGE...



The brand new book by LFC stadium announcer and matchday DJ **George Sephton** is essential reading for every Reds fan, as these short sharp extracts show

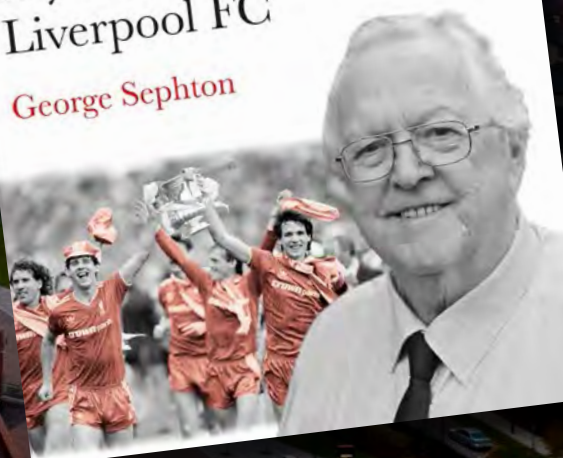


## THE VOICE OF ANFIELD

Foreword by  
Sir Kenny Dalglish

My Fifty Years with  
Liverpool FC

George Sephton







## BILL SHANKLY BOY

**On 22 February 1960, I turned fourteen... Meanwhile the sleeping giant that was Liverpool Football Club had been, for a few short weeks, in the care of an ambitious Scotsman by the name of Bill Shankly.**

A decade of underachievement would soon be over, and we would regain the status of champions and reach the holy grail of FA Cup triumph, a trophy that had thus far eluded us.

My first visit to Anfield was in January 1960. Liverpool had been drawn at home in the FA Cup against the mighty 'Busby Babes' of Manchester United.

After queueing for several hours around Stanley Park, and having been kicked by a passing police horse, I had the precious piece of paper in my hand and went to my first match. We lost 3-1, but I was hooked.

Between then and the time I started working at the club, I spent many hours standing on the old Kop. It could be hard work. If you got in late to find a spot in front of a crush barrier, you could go home with some serious damage. I had my ribs cracked twice in those heady days.



In 1965, Shankly's Liverpool got to the Cup final at Wembley for the first time in fifteen years. By now my poor dad was crippled with arthritis and could barely get out of his chair, so we watched the game on a black-and-white TV in our front room.

We went through all sorts of emotional somersaults until Ian St John scored a wonderful flying header to win the game. At the final whistle my dad turned painfully to face me and said, "This is the greatest day of my life."

## FIRST-DAY NERVES

**[Liverpool v Nottingham Forest, Anfield, 14 August 1971.] My first day as stadium announcer! My nerves were completely shredded.**

I had spent the week borrowing records (good old seven-inch vinyl) from friends and work colleagues at the Harrison Line, a shipping company, in Liverpool. My record collection was probably enough to see me through, but I was determined to turn up with more than enough music to keep me going. Following the Boy Scout motto 'Be Prepared' has never let me down.





Some of the music I got together was, looking back, embarrassing. The New Seekers, Lobo, New World, Dawn, White Plains: not exactly cutting-edge. Other than that lot, however, was some serious rock music: T.Rex, Atomic Rooster and Slade.

One track in the charts at the time was *Won't Get Fooled Again* by The Who. I still play that to this day, although I use the glorious eight-minute version.

In those days the stadium announcer's 'perch' was on the TV gantry, suspended from the roof of the Main Stand. To get there I had to climb the fire escape at the side of the stand and walk along a gangway through the roof of the stand and down a vertical ladder onto the gantry. I got down the ladder with difficulty (I was carrying enough borrowed vinyl to restock HMV) and put my record box down.

Looking out over the Anfield crowd, knowing that I was going to be talking to them in a few minutes, I froze. I had a decision to make. I could either get on with it, bite the bullet and get the music going, or go home, pack a suitcase and disappear.

Everyone I knew was aware of my debut and quite a lot of them were at Anfield to hear it! In 1971 there was quite often a good crowd of people on the terrace even before I made my way up to my position. My instructions from [club secretary] Peter Robinson had been to "get there for 1.15" and I carried on in that vein for quite a few years.

The system on the Kop was exactly the same then as when I'd stood there in the Sixties. If you wanted your usual spot, you had to get there early and claim it.

I gritted my teeth and turned on the mic and record decks. I had decided to do the whole thing just as my predecessors had done it. I'd play a couple of tunes, have a quick chat, play some more tunes, then a bit more chat, passing on the usual bits of information: next game, 'beware of pickpockets' etc.

We were playing Nottingham Forest and when the team-sheet arrived it contained an unfamiliar name: Kevin Keegan!

This lad had arrived from Scunthorpe United during the summer for the princely sum of £35,000 and had an immediate impact. He scored in a 3-1 win and thus began his legendary partnership with John Toshack.

The following Tuesday was my second game working at the hallowed ground. Wolves were the visitors and I managed to cut my hand badly when banging it on the desk when Liverpool scored. And people thought I was laid-back and low-key.

## KENNY'S SPECIAL MESSAGE

**When I was a teenager, everyone my age thought pensioners were a blot on the landscape. But here I was, turning sixty-five [in 2011] and eligible for the state pension. I'm so glad it's not called the 'Old Age Pension' nowadays.**

I had a really nice family day. My wife and kids were as generous as always. In the evening, Liz and I went for a meal with Kim, her husband Mike and little Stevie G, who was only nine months old.

During the meal, my phone was very active with a lot of texts coming in. I was trying to be polite and ignore them, but the sheer volume was beginning to get to me.

I was chuffed to get so many 'Happy Birthday' messages but then I also started to receive a few texts along the lines of "Wasn't it great what Kenny said on LFCTV?"





I was blissfully unaware of what Kenny had said and didn't think for a moment it would have anything to do with me. However, when we eventually got home, I went to my laptop to investigate.

Kenny did a weekly interview with Claire Rourke on LFCTV. After finishing her usual questions (injury news, last weekend's game, next weekend's game etc) she said, "Finally, have you a message for George Sephton, who turns sixty-five today?"

His reply stunned me: "George is part of the history and traditions of Liverpool Football Club, and it would be more relevant if he left than if I left!"

I watched it through a couple more times to make sure I hadn't misheard him. I hadn't. Head spinning. I called Liz to come and watch the clip. The expression "Shoot me now" springs to mind.

Life doesn't get any better than that. I idolize Kenny, and I was a big admirer of Claire. She's always at the top of her game and has been a priceless asset to LFCTV since arriving from a similar role with Real Madrid. I am forever in her debt.

## MEETING JÜRGEN KLOPP

After a disappointing run of form, Brendan Rodgers was shown the door on Saturday 4 October [2015] within an hour of the final whistle after a 1-1 draw with Everton at Goodison Park.

Four days later, the rising star of German football management, the charismatic Jürgen Klopp, was given the manager's job at Anfield. He'd been in charge at Borussia Dortmund, where he'd enjoyed a fair amount of success, but was now looking for a new challenge.

The two clubs have a similar fan base (they even sing You'll Never Walk Alone before games) and Jürgen appeared to be a perfect fit.

His first game in charge was an away draw against Spurs in the Premier League. His second was a Europa League game against Rubin Kazan at Anfield the following Thursday.

After the game, I was hanging around the Main Stand reception as usual, waiting for the traffic to subside. Suddenly Jürgen appeared from the corridor leading from the dressing-room and went past me



up the stairs to the temporary press-room.

I decided that I couldn't miss the opportunity and followed him. "Herr Klopp," I shouted.

When he stopped, I held out my right hand and got as far as "Hello, my name's George" before he interrupted me. His eyes lit up.

"Ah yes! You are the famous Voice of Anfield!"

He shook my hand firmly. I was stunned. I managed "Welcome to Anfield" before he went off to his press-conference.

When I turned round, there were three club stewards standing there. Two were open-mouthed. The third wasn't.

"Do you know what," he said. "I work at Melwood during the day. That guy has been here a week and he knows everyone's name. Not just the players but the academy kids, the office staff, the tea lady, the stewards and the office cat!"

We know we were in a period of change but we didn't realize what was on the horizon.

## WIN THE BOOK!

**The full title of George Sephton's autobiography, published by Atlantic Books, is *The Voice of Anfield: My Fifty Years with Liverpool FC*. With a foreword from Sir Kenny Dalglish and special 'sleeves notes' by Reds fan and musician Elvis Costello, it's not to be missed.**

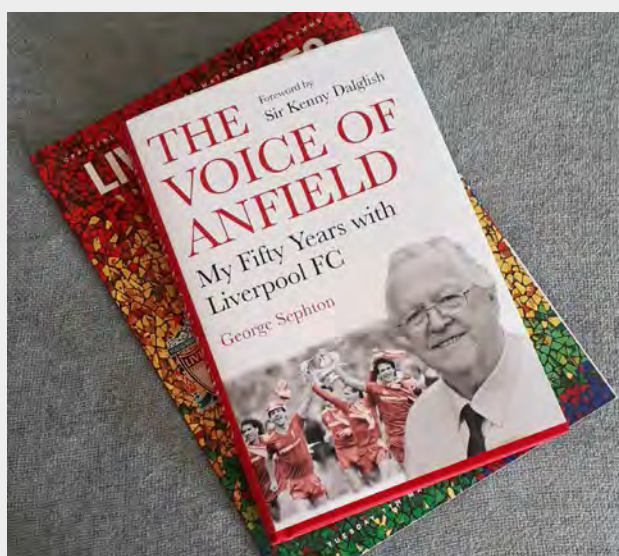
George's relationship with LFC began in 1971 when he wrote to the club secretary applying to be the stadium announcer. For the past 50 years he's been at Anfield for all but a handful of home fixtures, as well as travelling with the team to major finals.

From the highs of title-wins and European Cup triumphs, to the lows of Heysel and Hillsborough, and encounters with great managers and legendary players along the way, George has been through it all and now tells his unique and hugely entertaining story.

We have three copies of this new hardback to give away. To be in with a chance of winning one, simply tells us:

**Which John Lennon song did George play at the end of the Champions League semi-final second leg against Barcelona at Anfield:**  
(a) Jealous Guy (b) Instant Karma (c) Imagine

Email your answer, name, address and contact phone-number with 'VOICE OF ANFIELD BOOK COMPETITION' in the subject line to [liverpoolfcmag@reachsport.com](mailto:liverpoolfcmag@reachsport.com) before 10 May 2021. Normal Reach PLC competition rules apply. The winners will be notified and receive their prize in due course.



## APRIL COMPETITION WINNERS:

### KENNY DALGLISH NOTES ON A SEASON:

Nicholas Lock (Malton), Andy Potter (Basingstoke), John-Paul Tooley (London).

### LIVERPOOL MISHMASH POSTER:

Ronnie Stewart (Thornton-Cleveleys), Vincent Phillipson (Formby), Gary Wilson (Waterloo), Paul Goggin (Dublin), Andrew Mckie (Kirkby).



NEW BOOK

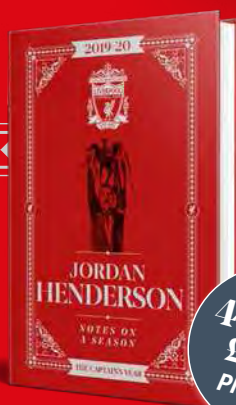
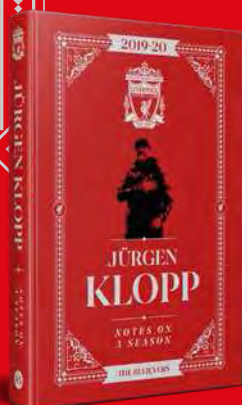
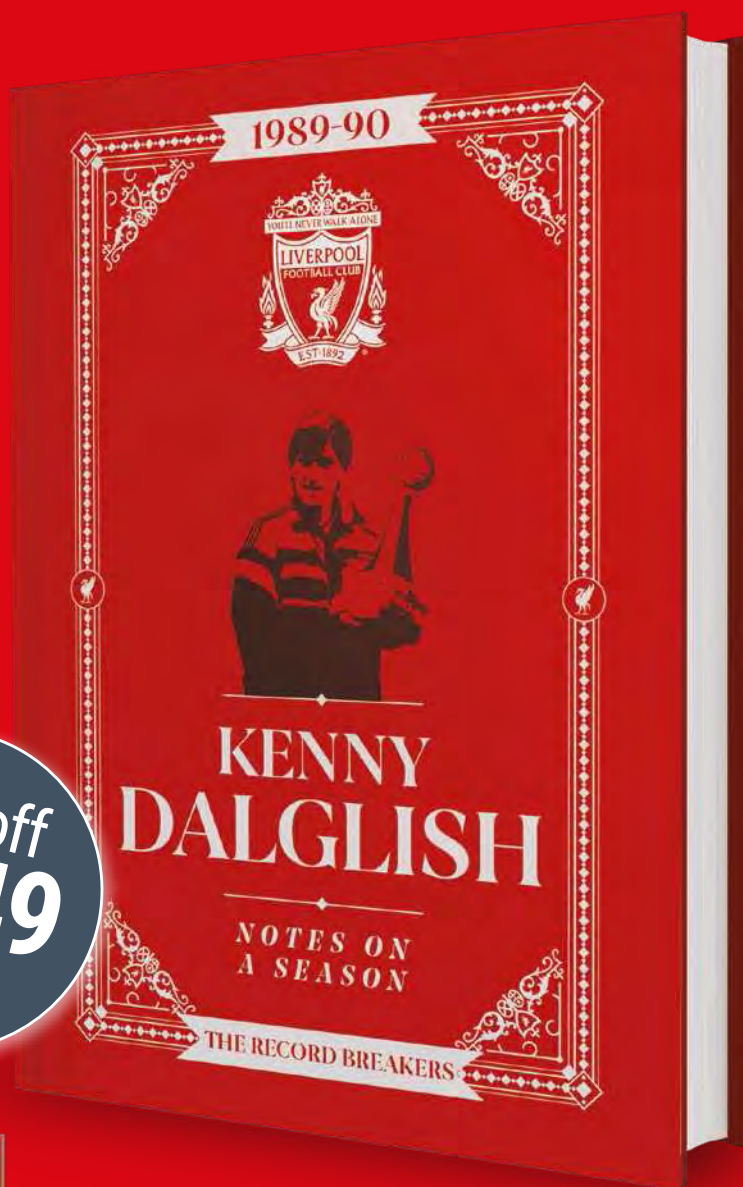
# KENNY'S HISTORY- MAKERS

## NOTES ON A SEASON

Before Jürgen Klopp's men ended a 30-year title drought, Kenny Dalglish was the last manager to bring the coveted league trophy back to Anfield. This is the story of the historic season the Reds marched to their 18th championship, told through his matchday programme notes.

On sale now!

25% off  
**£7.49**  
(RRP £9.99)  
Plus P&P



40% off  
**£5.99**  
Plus P&P

## COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTION

Order online at [reachsportshop.com](http://reachsportshop.com)







# KEEPING FAITH



Under-23s goalkeeping coach Mark Morris talks us through how LFC's young goalies are doing, explains the concept of 'training keepers' and reveals which youngster has been shadowing Alisson

## CAOIMHIN KELLEHER

**Myself and John Achterberg started at Liverpool FC on the same day 12 years ago and I'll never forget a conversation we had back then.**

We talked about how difficult it is to get 'one of your own' through in terms of goalkeepers. If you look at the academies in England and Wales and how many keepers have got through to play at first-team level – and certainly at the level of Liverpool – then you see it is very, very difficult. So we said then that our ultimate aim is to 'get one through' and if we can't then we want the boys we are working with to have careers in football.







We've certainly got quite a few out there who have come through our system and are now earning a living as professional footballers, but we've also got one through here in Caoimhin Kelleher.

It's early days and he has still got a lot of work in front of him, but when 'Quiv' has come in for Alisson we couldn't be more proud of how he has done. He's a very calm character with a dry sense of humour. He never shows external nerves and he's done ever so well.

In my consideration, Alisson is the best in the world so for Quiv to be going in every day and working with him – and with John and Jack [Robinson] – then he's picking up the best habits in the world.

Quiv is a very good learner. It's okay working alongside Ali, but if you don't learn, you don't watch and you don't study, you're wasting your opportunity.

## LIAM HUGHES

**At the Academy we have a very close relationship with the first-team and if they have injuries there is a knock-on effect. We furnish the first-team with goalkeepers from the Under-23s, then we dip into the U18 to bring them up to the U23s.**



Our view is that every team at the Academy has a couple of keepers to train with – it's not the same if you're shooting into a goal with no keeper there – so we try to make sure that there are at least two goalies for every session. We used to use a couple of college keepers, but then we introduced the concept of 'training keepers'.

Andy Firth was probably the first full-time training keeper when he came through the system and reached the age of 18, 19. He was a really good kid and we gave him the opportunity to train with us every day, better himself and get his coaching qualifications. Andy left us at 20, 21 and went to Rangers via Barrow. He's now forging a career up there.

We then had Dan Atherton come through the system. By the way, when these boys were called upon to play – and they were quite often – they didn't let themselves down at all.





After Dan we brought in Ben Winterbottom from Blackburn Rovers on a free transfer. He fitted the criteria of what we needed: to be quite robust and a good character around the place. Brentford came in for Ben in January and he has gone on to bigger and better things there.

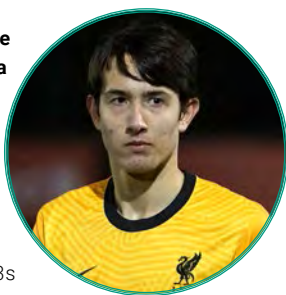
With Ben going, we brought in Liam Hughes. I worked with Liam for Northern Ireland U19s – I was their national goalkeeping coach until recently – so I knew he was coming out of Celtic. I rang Liam and he jumped at the opportunity. He's got a contract to the end of the season and I don't think it could have gone any better with him being on the bench for the senior game at Sheffield United.

When Liam came in we made it clear that he was here just to train, to improve and see where that took him, but we've had injuries and he's had a couple of opportunities which led to him spending ten days with the Northern Ireland senior team in March. He was third-choice for them during their World Cup qualifiers so he's had an unbelievable two or three months.

## MARCELO PITALUGA

**Marcelo is injured at the moment – he did his 'quad' playing against Chelsea for the U23s in February so he's now recuperating.**

Prior to that, he'd been fabulous. Marcelo was only 17 when he came into the U23s but didn't look out of place. He came in with no expectations from us because the U23s is a development area, a long-term thing.



The keepers are judged on how they progress over two seasons and that's not just me, that's by Taff [Neil Edwards] and [Bavo] Ian Dunbavin as well.

We're all very close to John [Achterberg] and Jack [Robinson] at the first-team – we speak every single day – and there is no pressure involved for keepers at this age.

Goalkeepers don't mature until they are older and they need a lot of games behind them before we see the best of them, hence Kamil Grabara and Vitezslav Jaros going out on loan.

We are very fortunate to have a good, positive bunch of goalkeepers and Marcelo is one of them. He's typical of the South American boys in that he's quite laid-back and very good with his feet.

When myself and John joined the club, Xavi Valero was the first-team goalkeeping coach and we were asked to incorporate the keepers in every single outfield session if we could: the passing, the possession. We do it from under-nines to the first-team so keepers are more than comfortable with their feet.

Goalkeepers starting attacks with their feet has been part of the game for the last ten years. We say that they must now have sets of golf clubs with both feet – they have to be able to pass it short with a putter, drive it long and chip it.

## VITEZSLAV JAROS

**I've just bought a St Patrick's Athletic season-ticket so that I can watch every game online. That's because 'Vite' is on loan with the League of Ireland club and would you believe that his goalkeeping coach at St Pats is Pat Jennings? Not the Pat Jennings but his son who has the same name.**



We speak two or three times a week and as soon as a game finishes they send me a DVD which I circulate through the goalkeeping coaches so we are keeping a close eye on Vite. He is another goalkeeper who comes to life on the football pitch – off it he is as calm as you like.

With the season only starting in March I've only seen two of Vite's games so far. They drew 1-1 at Shamrock Rovers and beat Drogheda United 2-1 [since this interview Jaros kept his first clean-sheet in a 1-0 win at Bohemians].

He made a mistake for the goal he conceded against Drogheda, but how he recovers is what we're looking for. Goalkeepers make mistakes and that's the nature of the game. The best ones recover and re-focus the quickest. It is also huge for Vite to be playing against older, physically-stronger, grown men there.

Very early on when I came to Liverpool, we sent Jamie Stephens on loan to Airbus UK in the Welsh Premier League.

For the first time ever, they finished second and qualified for







Europe, and he came back to Liverpool a completely different fish: more mature in his game and in his personality, off and on the pitch.

Since then we've sent Dan Atherton out on loan and Shamal George went to Marine, Carlisle and Tranmere and is now carving a career for himself at Colchester. I think it's a vitally important experience.

Don't get me wrong, we take games seriously at the Academy, but results aren't the be-all and end-all. But if you're sitting in a dressing-room having made a mistake and the guy sitting next to you needed three points and a win-bonus to pay his mortgage then it is a completely different scenario. You have to grow up quickly in that situation.

At Liverpool we are not just trying to produce top, top players – we are trying to produce top, top people as well. People who are grounded and a credit to Liverpool Football Club. Their footballing ability apart, we want other clubs to ring us and say 'What a great lad he is, what a well-mannered and polite guy you've sent us'.

## JAKUB OJRZYNSKI AND FABIAN MROZEK

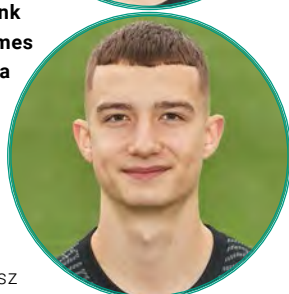
**I was asked why Liverpool happen to have three young Polish goalkeepers on our books at the moment and if it could be a 'Jerzy Dudek effect?' This is a personal opinion of mine but I think countries go in cycles when it comes to goalkeepers. One will produce a lot of good keepers at the same time, then it will move onto another country.**

We've managed to 'cherry-pick' Poland and if you look at their senior international squad they have Wojciech Szczesny and Lukasz Fabianski, two world-class keepers.

Jakub Ojrzynski is known as 'Kuba' and he is a workaholic. He's one of three Polish boys we have, alongside Kamil Grabara, who is out on loan, and Fabian Mrozek.

What we've found with these boys is that their work-ethic is unbelievable. They are first on the pitch and last off it. They want more. They want to learn and they ask questions. It puts us under pressure, which I like, because they are very demanding in the right sort of way. They want to watch their games back, to sit down and study the videos.

Kuba was also called up to be on the bench for the first-team against Sheffield United, which was a good experience for him. He is still developing, so now is the time to take in as much as he can.



When you're out on loan playing for points, or in and around the first-team, you don't get an awful lot of time to be coached – you're just getting prepared for the next game. Whereas in this period now – from age 14-15 upwards – we as coaches can really get to grips with the technical and tactical side of development.

Fab played for us in the Youth Cup against Sutton United and he is ticking along nicely. As I said earlier, when some of my U23s go to train with the first-team I'll try to get one or two of the U18s over to work with me, and Fab is one of them. He is a first year with plenty of time on his hands to develop.

Not having the UEFA Youth League, which was cancelled due to the pandemic, has been a blow because you're putting yourself up against different styles and some of the best young







players in other countries – you only have to look at some of the names who have come through that competition and are now playing for first-teams and for their countries.

The Youth League lets you know where you are on the grand scale of things. Liverpool is a club that competes on the European stage and that is the level you have to work towards because this club never stands still.

## HARVEY DAVIES AND OSCAR KELLY

**We brought Harvey in when he was nine. He's another one who, if he can push his way through to the first-team, would be another success story. He's developing ever so well.**

It's difficult when there is a run of games like the first-team often have, but when there is a quieter period we push one or two of the younger lads up to train with them for a couple of days. Harvey has gone up there and done himself no harm whatsoever. He is a fantastic kid from a lovely family.

Harvey travelled to Budapest with the first-team when we played RB Leipzig in the Champions League and he man-marked Alisson! He was like Ali's shadow and he was encouraged to do that. He hasn't stopped talking about it since he came back



because he learnt so much in terms of how to carry yourself, how to prepare and how to train.

Other than Tony Warner, who got through to the first-team squad but never made an appearance, we've not really had a Scouse goalkeeper come through and I was once asked if that's because young lads in Liverpool want to be a goalscorer rather than a goalkeeper?

What I have noticed recently is a lot of kids walking around Liverpool with 'Alisson' on the back of goalkeeper jerseys. It isn't as rare now that we have a superstar goalkeeper. We also have Oscar Kelly, a Scouser who has been at the club since he was nine.

The lads are among those coming through our system and nobody is happier than us as coaches when they reach 16 and are offered a three-year scholarship or go on to be signed as a pro.

The calibre of the players they are working with, and the speed of the ball, means they are going to improve even with the step-up from U18s to U23s.

From U23s to the first-team is an unbelievable step so it is the job of myself, and Taff and Bavo, to ultimately prepare them to move from one side of the training ground with the Academy to the other side with the first-team.









# IN THE ST BEGINNING WAS JOHN

So said legendary Liverpool manager Bill Shankly of the man he also described as his "first great signing." The stats show that Ian St John scored 118 goals in 425 appearances, but his contribution was so much more than that

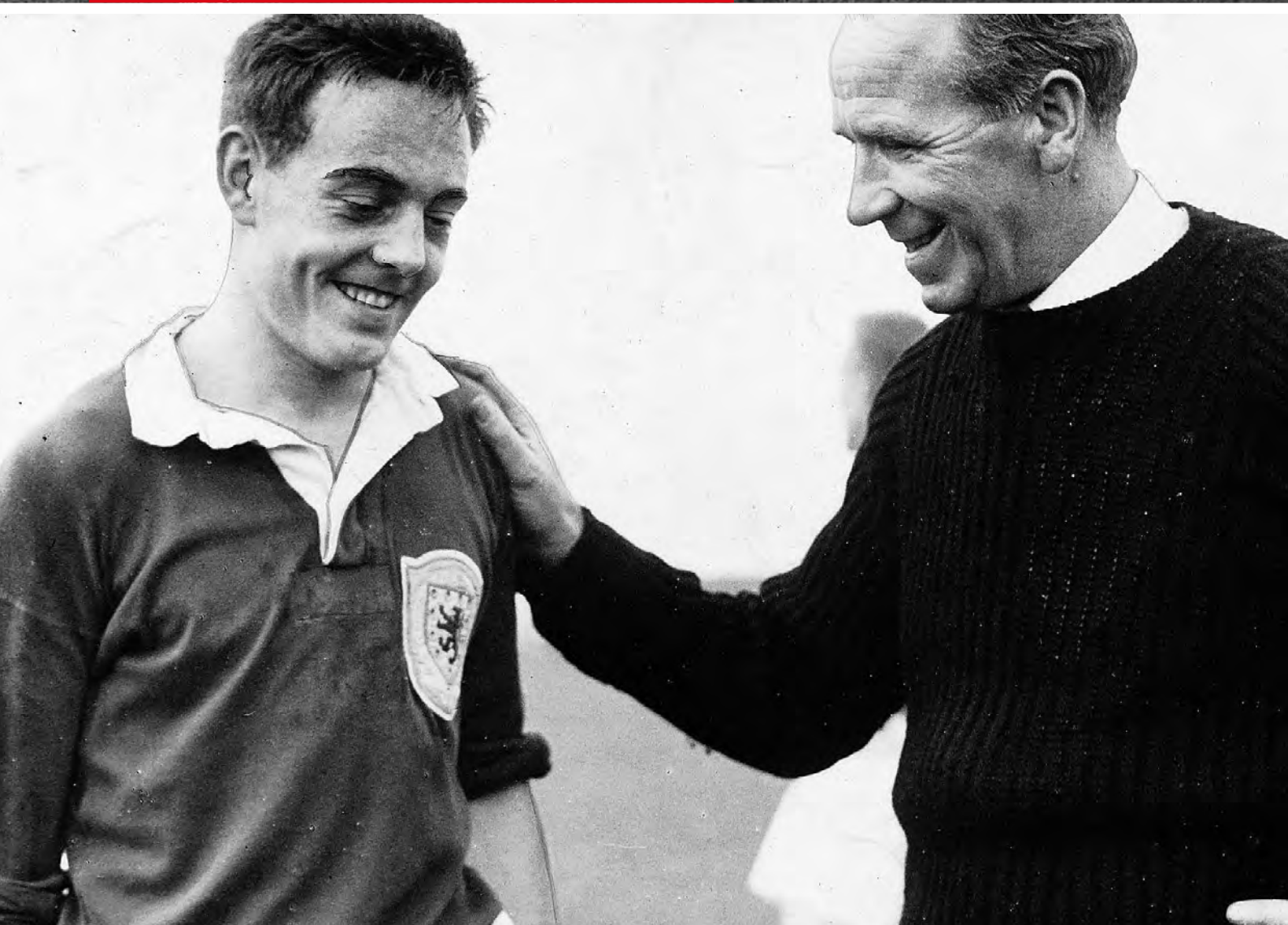


The Saint with Bill Shankly, the man who brought him to Liverpool for a club-record £37,500. Quizzed by the LFC board about the fees for St John and compatriot Ron Yeats, the reply from Shanks was: "We can't afford not to sign them." Shanks later added: "I didn't sign the best centre forward in the country...I signed the only centre-forward."





*In action for first club Motherwell, and below with Sir Matt Busby on Scotland international duty. The Saint won 21 caps for his country, scoring nine times*



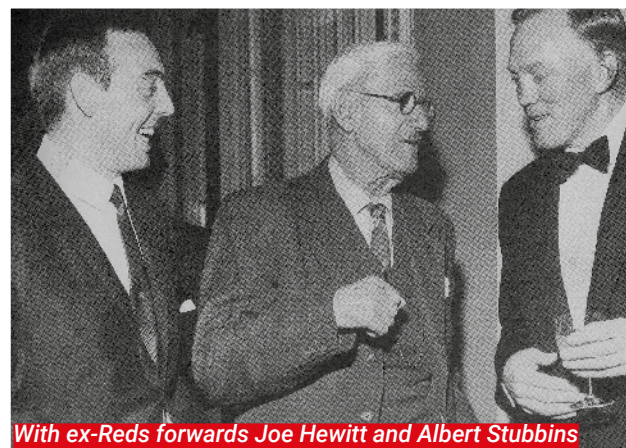




Heading in the famous extra-time Wembley winner to land Liverpool's first FA Cup against Leeds in 1965



Trying out a new Ford Cortina



With ex-Reds forwards Joe Hewitt and Albert Stubbins



St John spent almost a decade at Anfield, scoring 118 goals in 425 games. After helping the Reds win the Second Division in 1961/62, he was a key part in the side that claimed top-flight titles in 1963/64 and 1965/66





Celebrating his goal in the legendary 3-1 win over Inter Milan in the European Cup semi-final first leg at Anfield in May 1965



Guest DJ duties and right with team-mates Willie Stevenson and Ron Yeats and the 'Ee-Aye-Addio We've Won The Cup' album chronicling that first famous FA Cup win



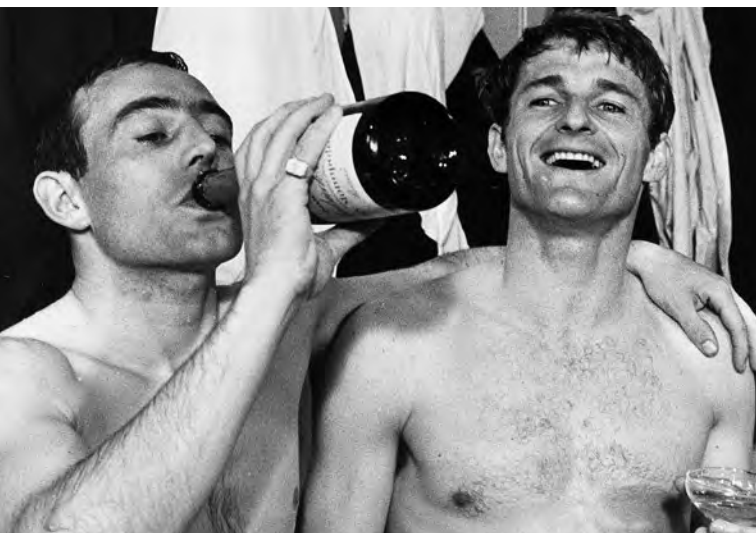
Filming in 1983 in his new role as a TV presenter

Opposite page, clockwise from top left: in the thick of it against Celtic in the titanic 1966 European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final; celebrating the 1964 title triumph with his team-mates in the Anfield dressing-room; joining Liverpool comedian Ken Dodd on stage with fellow Scots Billy Liddell and Ron Yeats in 1964.









*This page, from top: reunion time in June 1975 as the Saint, then manager of Portsmouth, meets up with Bill Shankly and Ron Yeats along with Blackpool manager Harry Potts; playing head-tennis with Yeats at Melwood; on the lap of honour following the FA Cup final triumph in 1965; toasting another success with his attacking partner 'Sir' Roger Hunt after winning the league title in 1966 when the pair shared 39 Division One goals between them.*

*Opposite page: showing off his FA Cup winner's medal to a happy fan on the journey home from Wembley in 1965; displaying the famous trophy with team-mates Ron Yeats, Willie Stevenson and Peter Thompson; "It's a funny old game, Saint"...part of a new double-act with former Chelsea and Spurs striker Jimmy Greaves, when their show was a Saturday lunchtime must-watch.*













**Red Together**

Work Together.  
Stand Together.  
**Achieve Together.**

Find out more at  
**[liverpoolfc.com/RedTogether](https://liverpoolfc.com/RedTogether)**







*In action for Liverpool against Chelsea in April 1965*

# “It didn’t create much more than a ripple”

As Liverpool prepare for May’s trip to Old Trafford we pay tribute to the last man to transfer between the Reds and Manchester United



**In April 1964, when Liverpool paid £25,000 to Manchester United to complete the signing of forward Phil Chisnall, nobody batted an eyelid.**

Yet so intense has the rivalry become between the two North West rivals in the 57 years since that Bill Shankly’s swoop for Chisnall, who passed away in March aged 78, remains the last piece of transfer business between the clubs.

A decade ago, ahead of an FA Cup fifth-round tie between United and Liverpool, magazine assistant-editor William Hughes spoke to the affable Mancunian about the circumstances surrounding his move.

William recalls: “I’d left a couple of messages on Phil’s landline

answering machine and thought it unusual that he had not responded given his friendly demeanour in previous conversations.

“In truth I’d almost given up on chatting to him ahead of our deadline when the office phone rang one Monday afternoon. ‘Hi, it’s Phil Chis’, he announced, before explaining that he’d been away for a few days and was just responding to the messages which had been left for him.”

Chisnall then reflected upon his move between the red rivals: “Liverpool only came up from the [old] Second Division in 1962 – it was only in the days since that Liverpool and United was the big rivalry.

“I joined Liverpool in 1964 and that’s when the rivalry between them more or less started because Liverpool hadn’t been winning things for quite a while before. But then it took off and they won the league and





Bill and Matt



Playing for Manchester United



Kicking off Match of the Day

the cup and started winning all these trophies.

"Before that, it wasn't so much of an issue. They wouldn't sanction it [the transfer] now but in those days there wasn't a rivalry as there is today, so it didn't really create much more than a ripple."

Phil also explained that he didn't think twice about moving down the East Lancs Road after being advised by great Scottish managers Sir Matt Busby and Bill Shankly.

"Shankly used to come over to see Busby quite a lot. To me, it was like father and son with them. I was in a unique position because I was in a room with them both discussing my future."

And despite the way the fierce rivalry between Liverpool and United developed as both regional foes and England's most successful clubs, Chisnall admitted to a deep affection for both.

"I like to see both do well for the supporters' sake because they've both got great fans, there is no doubt about that. Wherever you go in the world, you know that people recognise that the United and Liverpool fans are always there for their team and that's a great boost for the players."

The Manchester-born attacker had contributed ten goals in 47 appearances at Old Trafford before Shankly made his move by declaring: "Phil can do unusual things with the ball – he might be something special."

While Chisnall was the last player transferred between Liverpool and United, he was also responsible for a famous footballing first: he was the first man to strike a ball on Match of the Day, kicking off the 'debut' game against Arsenal in August 1964 on the BBC show.

He stayed at Anfield for two seasons, scoring twice in nine appearances – including one in Liverpool's first-ever European Cup game, away at KR Reykjavik. But the sheer strength of the team made it hard for him to secure a regular place.

"Things didn't really work out for me but I didn't regret joining Liverpool. It was a great side with players like Ian St John, Ian Callaghan, Peter Thompson, Roger Hunt, Willie Stevenson, Gordon Milne and Tommy Smith, so it was always going to be tough to get into the side."

Phil duly joined fourth-tier Southend United, scoring 31 goals in 160 games from 1967 to 1971 before having one last season with Stockport County. He retired at the age of 29 due to knee trouble. He later returned to Manchester, running two betting shops, then worked as a plant operator and in a bakery.

The thoughts of everyone at LFC are with Phil's family and friends at this sad time.



# RAZZA READY

Rhiannon Roberts, one of the mainstays of Liverpool FC Women's line-up, feels the current campaign can give the Reds an edge in 2021/22

**In early June last year Liverpool FC Women were relegated from the FA Women's Super League after it was ruled that the season would be decided by points-per-game.**

The Reds were bottom of the table but still had eight matches to play, the majority at home, and several against teams in and around them. No wonder then that demotion to the FA Women's Championship was a hard pill to swallow.

This season has been tough, too, with Liverpool having to adjust to different demands at the lower level and knowing there was little margin for error with only one promotion place available.

Leicester City clinched that spot at the start of April after a 12-game winning streak, leaving the Reds to battle it out with Sheffield United to finish third behind Leicester and Durham Women's FC.

Despite the disappointment of being unable to bounce back at the first attempt, Rhiannon Roberts prefers to focus on the bigger picture. The 30-year-old is in her third season with the Reds and having played senior women's football since her teens she's grateful for the opportunities Liverpool have had to play and build foundations for a brighter future against the backdrop of a global pandemic.

"To be honest, we are really lucky that we can carry on," she says. "I know it's been a bit of a struggle for other people, especially those who have been furloughed and been sat at home all the time. The football has helped keep us going and just given us a bit of normality with being able to go into work every day.

"We are in our own little bubble and we've always got that social side that other people haven't really had through this pandemic, so we are really fortunate in those respects.

"In that regard nothing has really changed. There's not really been too much to look forward to outside of football, but that's the same for everybody else really."

The lockdown measures have hit Roberts' personal life too. She had been hoping to get married last summer but has now had to postpone the wedding twice.

Interview: William Hughes









"We have had to put it back again. After last year, we booked it for this May but we just want it to be as normal as possible and you want all your family and friends there. So we've actually delayed it again until 2022.

"We are really looking forward to that but, for now, it's kind of on the back-burner. I feel like I can't really get excited about it until the pandemic's nearly over with and I know that I can actually plan for it.

"My brother was meant to get married last year as well at Christmas-time so his got cancelled too. Hopefully his will be next year too and we can enjoy those occasions."

On the pitch she admits that adapting to the Championship has been tough. "It's been a difficult year. Not having fans is one thing and obviously a different league also gives you different challenges with playing different teams at different grounds, some of which are 3G pitches.

"We've had a lot more of the ball than we have been used to in the Super League and so it's been a different challenge for us, but we've learnt a lot."

The Reds have played just one match in front of supporters this season with a small number being admitted for the 4-0 home win over Crystal Palace in December.

"I know it wasn't a massive number of fans but it made such a

## WE'VE REVISITED EVERYTHING OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND HOPEFULLY THE FANS CAN SEE IT'S COMING TOGETHER IN THE PERFORMANCES

difference," continues Rhiannon. "I don't know if they could tell from the stand but on the pitch it just made a difference knowing they were there in the ground with us.

"We really miss the supporters. Of course we are in the same boat as everybody else, but we're looking forward to hopefully having them back next season and I think it will give us an extra boost."

The Reds have also had to deal with the mid-season departure of popular manager Vicky Jepson, but interim-boss Amber Whiteley has steadied the ship and put the emphasis on a more possession-based brand of football. The 2-0 home win over Lewes on 4 April stretched the team's unbeaten run to six games.

"Since Amber took charge after Christmas it's been building blocks really and we've just worked on everything from back to front and you can really see it coming together now," says Roberts.

"We've revisited everything over and over again and everyone is on the same wavelength. We know what we're doing on the pitch and she does want to play a more possession-based game and everyone's up for that.

"Hopefully the fans are seeing that it's coming together in some of the recent performances. I think everyone is enjoying their football at the minute and that's when you play your best football.

"If anything we've got a lot to look forward to next season because







the setbacks and challenges [that we've had] are going to encourage everyone even more to do well next season and get us back to where we belong."

Since Whiteley took charge, Roberts has been mainly deployed at right-back, forming a strong partnership with Becky Jane who has operated in a more advanced position.

"I really enjoy playing full-back," she says. "I have played full-back or wing-back for Wales too so I've got quite a lot of experience there. Having Becks alongside me on that side is class. We get on really well on and off the pitch and we just seem to be on the same wavelength. We're always saying, 'right side, strong side, let's go!' all the time!"

"She has played right-back so understands the defensive side. That really helps because when we do decide to rotate or maybe find ourselves out of position on a transition, I know that she'll cover me and vice-versa. We've both got the same kind of know-how so it works really well."

As well as working with a new manager at club level, Rhiannon has a new boss at international level too. Gemma Grainger has replaced Jayne Ludlow and took charge of Wales for the first time for this month's friendlies against Canada and Denmark.

"I actually worked with Gemma when I played for Great Britain in the University Games in China about a decade ago, so I know she is a good manager.

"Obviously that was back in 2011 so it was a long time ago now, but she's a really good person and we're looking forward to our new challenges. It's a fresh start and we had good fixtures against Canada and Denmark, teams that we need to compete against going forward.

"All the girls were buzzing to be back and having a focus again."

Joining Roberts in the squad for those games was her Liverpool team-mate Ceri Holland, a January recruit who'd previously played in the college programme at the University of Kansas. The 23-year-old midfielder has made an immediate impact and was named FA Women's Championship Player of the Month for February.

"She's really hit the ground running," says Roberts. "I actually knew Ceri beforehand because she used to be at the Blackburn Rovers centre of excellence in the younger age-groups.

"She was in a very good team back then with [current England internationals] Georgia Stanway and Keira Walsh [both at Manchester

City] and Hannah Godfrey [now at Tottenham].

"She has been a perfect fit for our team at Liverpool. She's a class girl and is brilliant off the pitch and on it.

"Her athleticism and quality in midfield, the runs that she makes and the fact that she is so powerful and quick has helped her make a huge difference. And with the style of football that Amber wants us to play now, she fits perfectly and of course it's a bonus that she's Welsh!"

This month sees Liverpool enter the delayed Women's FA Cup with the fourth-round draw sending them to FA Women's Championship winners Leicester City.

The Reds were edged out 2-1 by the Foxes in both of their league meetings and Roberts feels the team will be determined to get one over the East Midlands side when they meet at Quorn FC on 18 April.

"For me, it's not a case of the league and cup being completely different. I want to compete for everything and I think the rest of the girls do too.

"I know a lot of the girls from Bristol City and watching them get to the Continental Cup final this season, I was just buzzing. I thought: do you know what, we could go on such a good cup run.

"We have been narrowly beaten by Leicester twice. The first time we played them we had a midweek game against Manchester United in the Conti Cup beforehand and although it's no excuse, that was a challenge on the back of winning that game against Super League opponents a few days earlier.

"Then in the second game at Prenton Park we had a player sent-off just after half-time, so that was also tough for us.

"We're due a little bit of payback and the girls will think the same. We'll be absolutely 100 per cent wanting to win that game and get on a good cup run, for sure."

Liverpool went into their final two league games in fourth position, trailing Sheffield United on goal-difference with the first of their remaining fixtures away to the Blades on 25 April.

"There is still plenty to play for and we've got to keep challenging and getting as many points as we can," concludes Rhiannon. "The things we've been doing on the pitch recently have been good – we've just got to carry on with the building blocks for next season."



APR/MAY

# WHAT'S ON

## PLENTY TO PLAY FOR

**The Reds begin the final stretch of the season targeting a place in the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League.**

Following the first leg of the quarter-final against Real Madrid in Spain, the Reds were set to host the return on Wednesday 14 April knowing that success would earn them a semi-final with Chelsea or FC Porto. Should that happen the first leg would be played at home on 27/28 April ahead of the return fixture the following week.

There is plenty of Premier League action coming up too and the next month will see the Reds play four times, twice at Anfield and twice away.

First up is the team's first trip to Elland Road for a first league fixture since February 2004 when they make the trip to West Yorkshire on Monday 19 April. The Reds will be aiming to complete a double over Marcelo Bielsa's side following the thrilling 4-3 victory at Anfield on the opening day.

The first weekend of May sees Liverpool make the short trip to Old Trafford, hoping for a better outcome than January's FA Cup fourth-round clash when Jürgen Klopp's men were edged out 3-2.

Also on the agenda are a couple of home games with Newcastle United in L4 on 24 April and Southampton on 8 May.







APR/MAY

## WHAT'S ON



ALL THOSE YEARS AGO...

## BIRTHDAYS

Marko Grujic 25 on 13 April

Neco Williams 20 on 13 April

Missy Bo Kearns 20 on 14 April

Rafael Benitez 61 on 16 April

Divock Origi 26 on 18 April

Taylor Hinds 22 on 25 April

Dominic Matteo 47 on 28 April

Melissa Lawley 27 on 28 April

Amy Rodgers 21 on 4 May

Jess Clarke 32 on 5 May

Ashley Hodson 26 on 5 May

Graeme Souness 68 on 6 May



## ANNIVERSARIES

**16** since the Champions League quarter-final first leg against Juventus on 5 April 2005.

**20** years since Gary McAllister's penalty helped the Reds beat Barcelona in the UEFA Cup semi-final on 19 April 2001.

**32** years since 96 fans lost their lives at Hillsborough on 15 April 1989.

**33** years since that famous 5-0 win over Nottingham Forest on 13 April 1988.

**43** years since the Reds reached the European Cup final with a 3-0 semi-final second-leg win over Borussia Moenchengladbach on 12 April 1978.

**44** years since the Reds reached their first European Cup final on 20 April 1977.

**57** years since the famous 5-0 defeat of Arsenal secured the Division One title in 1964 for Shankly's boys.

**61** years since local lad Ian Callaghan made his Liverpool FC debut on 16 April 1960.

**And it's five years since that incredible Anfield night against Borussia Dortmund on 14 April 2016...**

Although events against Barcelona two years ago have since surpassed it, this match also ranks as one of Anfield's greatest-ever European nights.

Jürgen Klopp's new team took on his old side armed

## NEVER FORGOTTEN

Thursday 15 April 2021 marks the 32nd anniversary of the Hillsborough tragedy. Liverpool supporters around the world will remember those fellow fans who went to a football match and never came home. The city will come to a standstill for a minute's silence at 3.06pm.

Liverpool face Real Madrid at Anfield the previous evening. Never before has the nearest home fixture to the Hillsborough anniversary taken place behind-closed doors but our thoughts are always with those who continue to be affected by the tragedy and the families and friends of the 96.

with an away-goal from the 1-1 draw in the first leg in Germany. The ground was buzzing before kick-off with *You'll Never Walk Alone* ringing out across all four sides of the ground.

After nine minutes it was the fans in yellow-and-black who were singing as goals from Henrikh Mkhitaryan and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang put Der BVB in control. A goal soon after the break from Divock Origi – a man whose European exploits would become legendary – ignited hope but Marco Reus restored the visitors' two-goal advantage and Liverpool's Europa League race seemed to be run.

Philippe Coutinho and Mamadou Sakho had other ideas, however, thrillingly making the score 3-3 and reducing Dortmund's advantage to away-goals only.

Then, in added-time, James Milner sent over a cross and Dejan Lovren powered home a header at the Kop-end to send Anfield rocking and Liverpool into the semi-finals. Wow!

"That is the moment in football and life when you have to show character and that's what the lads did," said Klopp afterwards. "It was pretty cool to watch. We needed three goals and I said that, even if it is not really likely, it is possible and we should try to do it.

"I reminded the players about Liverpool being 3-0 down in the Champions League final [of 2005]. It was brilliant, outstanding, emotional."





# RELAX RESET ROAM

IN PARADISE SOON



## MAURITIUS IS WAITING

We're vaccinating our hotel staff and islanders,  
prepping our beautiful resorts and cannot wait to  
welcome you back to paradise very soon.

#MAURITIUS  
**now**

[MAURITIUSNOW.COM](https://mauritiushow.com)



Official Global Partner



# WHAT'S IN



**ADULTS  
HERITAGE RED  
SHANKLY TEE**  
£25



**ADULTS  
HERITAGE 89  
RED HOME TEE**  
£25



**ADULTS HERITAGE 89  
GREY AWAY TEE**  
£25



**ADULTS HERITAGE 89 GREY AWAY  
CREW KNIT JUMPER**  
£45





# STORE

EXCLUSIVE APPAREL  
INSPIRED BY LFC LEGENDS  
AND CRAFTED INTO  
MODERN PIECES FOR  
ADULTS AND JUNIORS

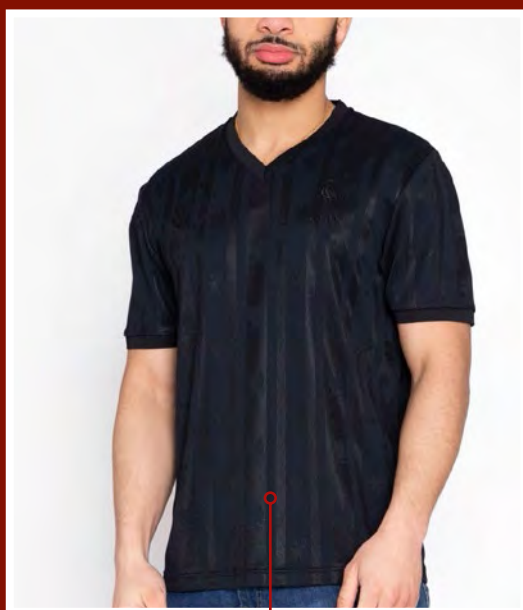


**ADULTS HERITAGE  
86 RED HOME TEE**  
£25

**ADULTS '47 RED FLAGSHIP WASH  
MVP 89 HOME CAP**  
£22.50



**ADULTS HERITAGE  
97 ECRU AWAY TEE**  
£25



**ADULTS HERITAGE 86  
BLACKOUT TEE**  
£35



**ADULTS HERITAGE 89  
BLACKOUT HOME TEE**  
£35

Shop for all your Liverpool FC essentials in Official Club Stores and at [liverpoolfc.com/store](https://liverpoolfc.com/store) and for more details follow @LFCRetail on Twitter and Instagram! Terms and conditions apply.

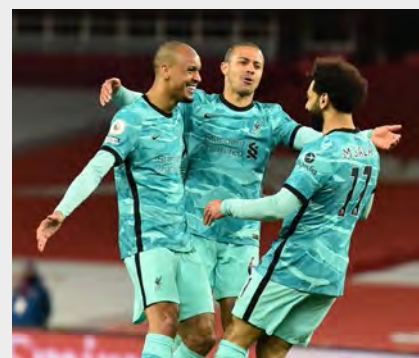




# Results & Fixtures 2020/21

AUGUST		SCORE	TV	SCORERS
Sat 29	Arsenal (CS, N)	1-1*	BT	Minamino (pens: Salah, Fabinho, Minamino, Jones)
SEPTEMBER				
Sat 12	Leeds United (H)	4-3	Sky	Salah 3 (2 pens), Van Dijk
Sun 20	Chelsea (A)	2-0	Sky	Mane 2
Thu 24	Lincoln City (Carabao Cup 3, A)	7-2	Sky	Shaqiri, Minamino 2, Jones 2, Grujic, Origi
Mon 28	Arsenal (H)	3-1	Sky	Mane, Robertson, Jota
OCTOBER				
Thu 01	Arsenal (Carabao Cup 4, H)	0-0*	Sky	(pens: Milner, Wijnaldum, Minamino, Jones)
Sun 04	Aston Villa (A)	2-7	Sky	Salah 2
Sat 17	Everton (A)	2-2	BT	Mane, Salah
Wed 21	Ajax (UCL Matchday 1, A)	1-0	BT	Tagliafico (OG)
Sat 24	Sheffield United (H)	2-1	Sky BO	Firmino, Jota
Tue 27	FC Midtjylland (UCL Matchday 2, H)	2-0	BT	Jota, Salah (pen)
Sat 31	West Ham United (H)	2-1	Sky	Salah (pen), Jota
NOVEMBER				
Tue 03	Atalanta (UCL Matchday 3, A)	5-0	BT	Jota 3, Salah, Mane
Sun 08	Manchester City (A)	1-1	Sky	Salah (pen)
Sat 21	Leicester City (H)	3-0	Sky	Evans (OG), Jota, Firmino
Wed 25	Atalanta (UCL Matchday 4, H)	0-2	BT	
Sat 28	Brighton & Hove Albion (A)	1-1	BT	Jota
DECEMBER				
Tue 01	Ajax (UCL Matchday 5, H)	1-0	BT	Jones
Sun 06	Wolverhampton Wanderers (H)	4-0	AP	Salah, Wijnaldum, Matip, Semedo (OG)
Wed 09	FC Midtjylland (UCL Matchday 6, A)	1-1	BT	Salah
Sun 13	Fulham (A)	1-1	Sky	Salah (pen)
Wed 16	Tottenham Hotspur (H)	2-1	AP	Salah, Firmino
Sat 19	Crystal Palace (A)	7-0	BT	Firmino 2, Salah 2, Minamino, Mane, Henderson
Sun 27	West Bromwich Albion (H)	1-1	Sky	Mane
Wed 30	Newcastle United (A)	0-0	AP	
JANUARY				
Mon 04	Southampton (A)	0-1	Sky	
Fri 08	Aston Villa (FA Cup 3, A)	4-1	BT	Mane 2, Wijnaldum, Salah
Sun 17	Manchester United (H)	0-0	Sky	
Thu 21	Burnley (H)	0-1	Sky	
Sat 23	Manchester United (FA Cup 4, A)	2-3	BBC	Salah 2
Thu 28	Tottenham Hotspur (A)	3-1	BT	Firmino, Alexander-Arnold, Mane
Sun 31	West Ham United (A)	3-1	Sky	Salah 2, Wijnaldum
FEBRUARY				
Wed 03	Brighton & Hove Albion (H)	0-1	BT	
Sun 07	Manchester City (H)	1-4	Sky	Salah (pen)
Sat 13	Leicester City (A)	1-3	BT	Salah
Tue 16	RB Leipzig (UCL R of 16 1 A)	2-0	BT	Salah, Mane
Sat 20	Everton (H)	0-2	Sky	
Sun 28	Sheffield United (A)	2-0	Sky	Jones, Bryan (OG)
MARCH				
Thu 04	Chelsea (H)	0-1	Sky	Sky
Sun 07	Fulham (H)	0-1	Sky	
Wed 10	RB Leipzig (UCL R of 16 2 H)	2-0	BT	Salah, Mane
Mon 15	Wolverhampton Wanderers (A)	1-0	Sky	Jota
APRIL				
Sat 03	Arsenal (A)	3-0	Sky	Jota 2, Salah
Tue 06	Real Madrid (UCL Q-F 1 A)	1-3	BT	Salah
Sat 10	Aston Villa (H, 3pm)		Sky	
Wed 14	Real Madrid (UCL Q-F 2 H)		BT	
Mon 19	Leeds United (A, 8pm)		Sky	
Sat 24	Newcastle United (H, 12.30pm)		BT	
Tue/Wed 27/28	(UCL S-F 1)		BT	
MAY				
Sat 1	Manchester United (A, 3pm)			
Tue/Wed 04/05	(UCL S-F 2)		BT	
Sat 08	Southampton (H, 3pm)			
Tue 11	West Bromwich Albion (A, 8pm)			
Sat 15	Burnley (A, 3pm)			
Sun 23	Crystal Palace (H, 4pm)			
Sat 29	(UCL final)		BT	

All fixtures subject to change. \*lost 5-4 on pens





**NEW**



Official Men's Grooming Supplier to Liverpool Football Club in UK



# GET YOUR GAME FACE ON

**100% NATURAL  
CAFFEINE** 





# NEIL MELLOR

## Mohamed Salah is always available, always looks sharp, and his goals have consistently got results for Liverpool

**Mo Salah's goal in the first leg of Liverpool's Champions League quarter-final against Real Madrid was his 18th away from home this season. It set a new club record, eclipsing the 17 that Ian Rush scored away from Anfield in both 1983/84 and 1986/87.**

Such a phenomenal tally is a further reminder of what an important player Salah has been for Liverpool since he arrived from Roma. He has progressed from being a top-class player to a world-class player and that is because of the football club he is at, and the manager he has worked under. Jürgen Klopp has got the best out of him.

Salah is competing to win the Golden Boot again for the third time in four seasons and I think that has been a big target for him this year. He won the Premier League last season but missed out on the Golden Boot. That has given him a real hunger to try to win it again.

Traditionally, Liverpool's greatest goalscorers have been central strikers. Ian Rush, Robbie Fowler, Michael Owen, Fernando Torres, Luis Suarez – all played down the middle. Salah can do that, but his position and his movement is different to those great goalscorers to have come before him.

It's a credit to him for how effective he has been from that slightly wider position. At the time of writing, Salah has scored 121 goals in 194 games for Liverpool. Nobody could have anticipated numbers like that.

When he first arrived there was hope that he could be a 15-goals-a-season man, but he has far exceeded expectations and grown to be a world-class player. I used to look forward to seeing Suarez – another world-class player – every time he pulled on a red shirt and the same goes for Salah now. He has that X-factor about him.

Yes, there have been little spells when he has missed chances, but he always gets into positions to score goals. He is a constant threat, a pest and a nuisance for defenders, and his tally of 41 assists for Liverpool shouldn't be forgotten either.

Nor should his injury record. Since signing for Liverpool, Salah has only missed seven Premier League games and he was an unused substitute in three of those matches. He is always available, he always looks sharp and his goals have consistently got results for the club.

He only turns 29 in June, but I'm not sure how much better he can get. The numbers he has been hitting are unbelievable and I don't think we can ask for much more. If anything, the question is can other players help him?

Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino haven't hit the goalscoring numbers of previous campaigns, but Diogo Jota's impact has eased some of the pressure on all of the front-three. The stats show that Liverpool are too reliant on the front-three for goals, but Jota has eased that burden.

All four of them played in the second half of the 3-0 victory at Arsenal and it gave defenders something else to think about. Firmino dropped deep and, for a couple of Liverpool's goals, Jota, Mane and Salah occupied Arsenal's defence.

That doesn't happen when Firmino drops deep in a front-three.

Jota is perhaps more effective down the middle and is certainly more effective for having Salah and Mane either side of him, but his flexibility allows them to interchange positions and that suits the way Liverpool play perfectly.

Mane hasn't been quite as prolific this season and there is talk that he could be fatigued after playing a lot of football. It's possible, because the front-three have played relentlessly all season, but then it hasn't affected Salah's form.

Perhaps Mane needs a one-game breather, but I'm not too concerned about him. The quality is there, he has still been involved in a lot of goalscoring chances and just having his pace as a threat is massive for Liverpool.

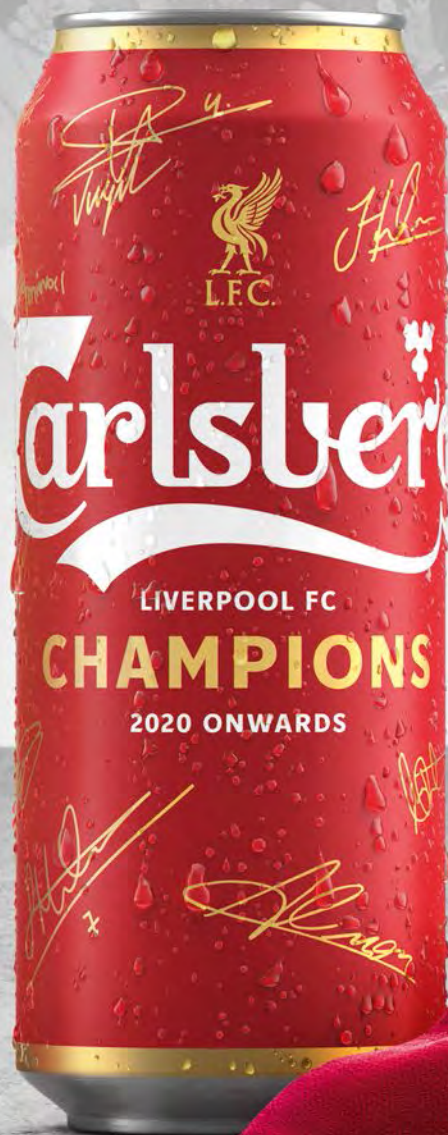
If Mane doesn't play, Salah misses him. If Salah doesn't play, Mane misses him. They may not count as direct 'assists' but the pace and movement of both has undoubtedly created space for the other one to score. That shouldn't be ignored when assessing their individual form.



• Follow Neil on Twitter @NeilMellor33



# Premier League Champions? Probably



Carlsberg



OFFICIAL BEER PARTNER OF LIVERPOOL FC





## NEVER FORGOTTEN 15 APRIL 1989

JOHN ALFRED ANDERSON (62)  
COLIN MARK ASHCROFT (19)  
JAMES GARY ASPINALL (18)  
KESTER ROGER MARCUS BALL (16)  
GERARD BERNARD PATRICK BARON (67)  
SIMON BELL (17)  
BARRY SIDNEY BENNETT (26)  
DAVID JOHN BENSON (22)  
DAVID WILLIAM BIRTLE (22)  
TONY BLAND (22)  
PAUL DAVID BRADY (21)  
ANDREW MARK BROOKES (26)  
CARL BROWN (18)  
DAVID STEVEN BROWN (25)  
HENRY THOMAS BURKE (47)  
PETER ANDREW BURKETT (24)  
PAUL WILLIAM CARLILE (19)  
RAYMOND THOMAS CHAPMAN (50)  
GARY CHRISTOPHER CHURCH (19)  
JOSEPH CLARK (29)  
PAUL CLARK (18)  
GARY COLLINS (22)  
STEPHEN PAUL COPOC (20)  
TRACEY ELIZABETH COX (23)  
JAMES PHILIP DELANEY (19)  
CHRISTOPHER BARRY DEVONSHIRE (18)  
CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS (29)  
VINCENT MICHAEL FITZSIMMONS (34)  
THOMAS STEVEN FOX (21)  
JON-PAUL GILHOOLEY (10)  
BARRY GLOVER (27)  
IAN THOMAS GLOVER (20)

DERRICK GEORGE GODWIN (24)  
ROY HARRY HAMILTON (34)  
PHILIP HAMMOND (14)  
ERIC HANKIN (33)  
GARY HARRISON (27)  
STEPHEN FRANCIS HARRISON (31)  
PETER ANDREW HARRISON (15)  
DAVID HAWLEY (39)  
JAMES ROBERT HENNESSY (29)  
PAUL ANTHONY HEWITSON (26)  
CARL DARREN HEWITT (17)  
NICHOLAS MICHAEL HEWITT (16)  
SARAH LOUISE HICKS (19)  
VICTORIA JANE HICKS (15)  
GORDON RODNEY HORN (20)  
ARTHUR HORROCKS (41)  
THOMAS HOWARD (39)  
THOMAS ANTHONY HOWARD (14)  
ERIC GEORGE HUGHES (42)  
ALAN JOHNSTON (29)  
CHRISTINE ANNE JONES (27)  
GARY PHILIP JONES (18)  
RICHARD JONES (25)  
NICHOLAS PETER JOYNES (27)  
ANTHONY PETER KELLY (29)  
MICHAEL DAVID KELLY (38)  
CARL DAVID LEWIS (18)  
DAVID WILLIAM MATHER (19)  
BRIAN CHRISTOPHER MATHEWS (38)  
FRANCIS JOSEPH McALLISTER (27)  
JOHN McBRIEN (18)  
MARIAN HAZEL McCABE (21)

JOSEPH DANIEL McCARTHY (21)  
PETER McDONNELL (21)  
ALAN McGLONE (28)  
KEITH McGRATH (17)  
PAUL BRIAN MURRAY (14)  
LEE NICOL (14)  
STEPHEN FRANCIS O'NEILL (17)  
JONATHON OWENS (18)  
WILLIAM ROY PEMBERTON (23)  
CARL WILLIAM RIMMER (21)  
DAVID GEORGE RIMMER (38)  
GRAHAM JOHN ROBERTS (24)  
STEVEN JOSEPH ROBINSON (17)  
HENRY CHARLES ROGERS (17)  
COLIN ANDREW HUGH WILLIAM SEFTON (23)  
INGER SHAH (38)  
PAULA ANN SMITH (26)  
ADAM EDWARD SPEARRITT (14)  
PHILIP JOHN STEELE (15)  
DAVID LEONARD THOMAS (23)  
PATRIK JOHN THOMPSON (35)  
PETER REUBEN THOMPSON (30)  
STUART PAUL WILLIAM THOMPSON (17)  
PETER FRANCIS TOOTLE (21)  
CHRISTOPHER JAMES TRAYNOR (26)  
MARTIN KEVIN TRAYNOR (16)  
KEVIN TYRRELL (15)  
COLIN WAFER (19)  
IAN DAVID WHELAN (19)  
MARTIN KENNETH WILD (29)  
KEVIN DANIEL WILLIAMS (15)  
GRAHAM JOHN WRIGHT (17)







Standard  
Chartered



**THROUGH THE GOOD AND  
THE BAD, WE'VE ALWAYS HAD  
HOPE IN OUR HEARTS.**

**W A L K O N**

[liverpoolfc.com/walkon](http://liverpoolfc.com/walkon)





WE ARE PLEASED TO RECOGNISE THE OFFICIAL PARTNERS OF LIVERPOOL FC



SUPPORT US SAFELY.